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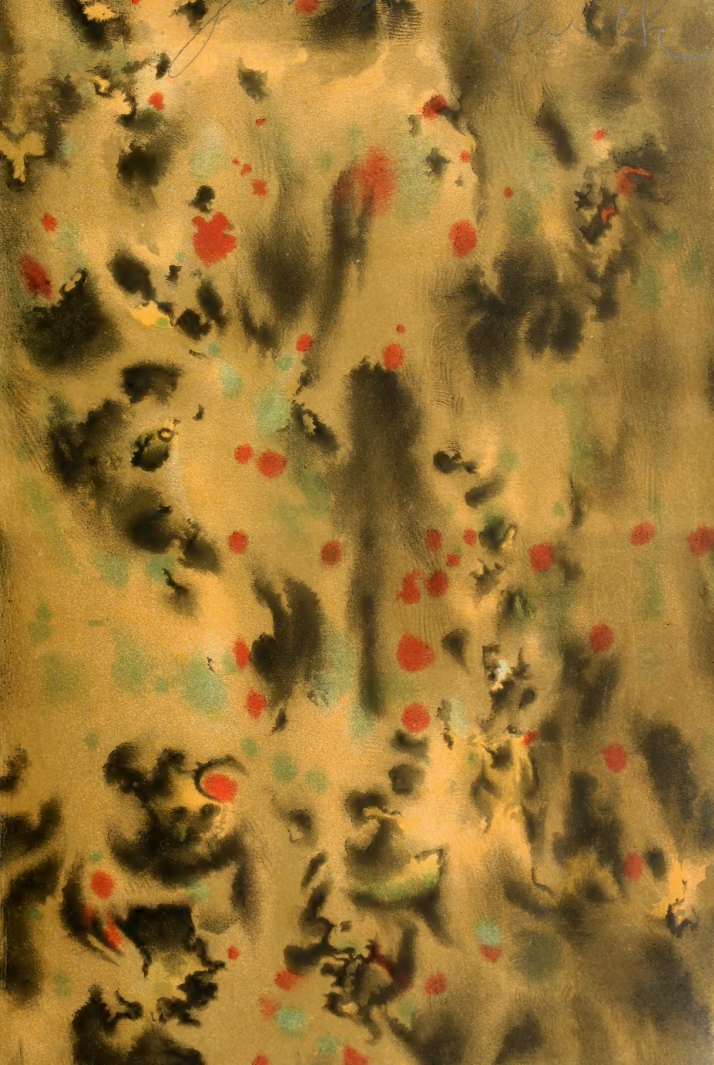
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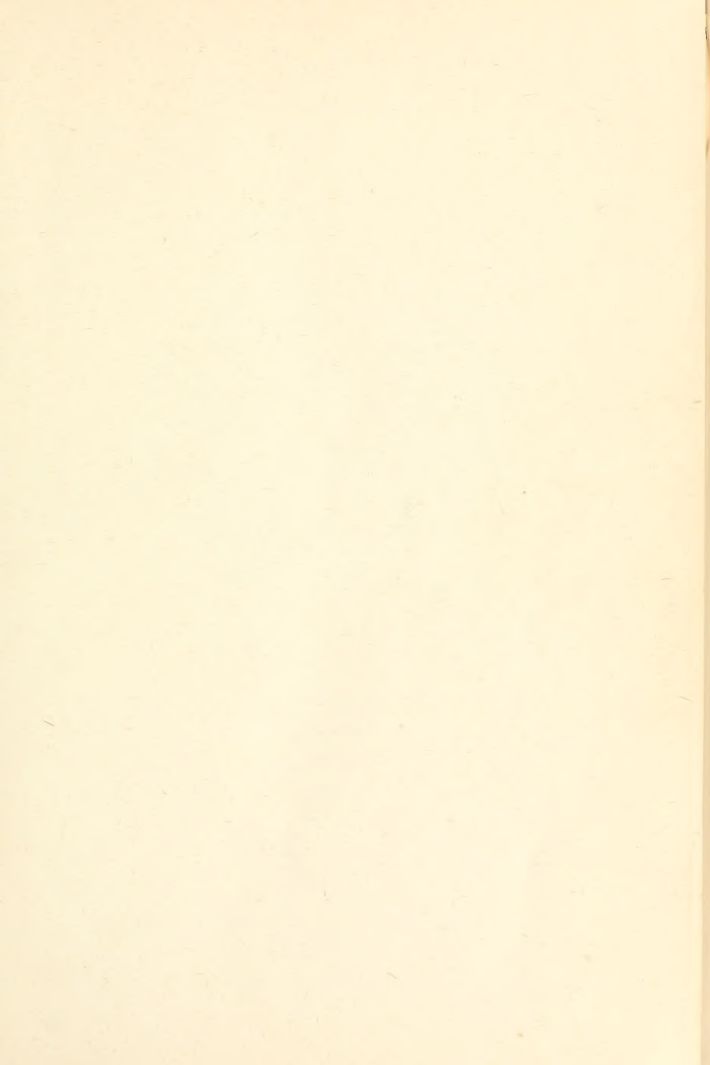
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HISTORY
OF
Otter Tail County
MINNESOTA

ITS PEOPLE, INDUSTRIES AND INSTITUTIONS

JOHN W. MASON
Editor

With Biographical Sketches of Representative Citizens and
Genealogical Records of Many of the Old Families

VOLUME II

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O. P. B. JACOBSON

BIOGRAPHICAL

O. P. B. JACOBSON.

O. P. B. Jacobson, of Fergus Falls, Otter Tail county, was born in Fredriksvärn, Norway, July 2, 1857. He received his schooling at Sandefjord, where his parents moved when he was three years old. After graduating from school, at the age of fifteen, he went to sea as apprentice in a sailing ship. Four years later he graduated from Christiana Navigation Board and got his captain's certificate. After several years of traveling around the world, he came to New York, where he was offered a position at Castle Garden. From there he went to Fergus Falls, Minnesota. At that time it was a growing town. Mr. Jacobson describes Fergus Falls as "a booming Western town" and he soon enrolled himself in the ranks as clerk in a general store. After several years in the store, he went on the road for a wholesale grocery house and afterwards he was traveling representative for the McCormick Harvester Company. His territory was very extensive and the large acquaintanceship which resulted, aided by his knowledge of grain growing and handling, was to serve him well later in his varied career. In 1909 he organized a company that bought the old and well-known Norwegian paper, *Fergus Falls Ugeblad*, of which he became the editor and manager. Like his other lines of endeavor, the *Ugeblad* was soon a success under Mr. Jacobson's management. In 1911 he retired from active management of the paper, but became its president. He accepted an appointment as a member of the board of grain appeals, tendered to him by Governor Eberhart. Three years later, a vacancy occurring in the state railroad and warehouse commission by reason of the resignation of C. F. Staples, Governor Eberhart named Mr. Jacobson for this place. In 1914 he was a candidate to succeed himself and was nominated and elected by an overwhelming majority. In recognition of his thorough knowledge of small grains, which are a feature of the agricultural resources of the state, he has continued to look after that part of the business that comes under the commission. The employees of this department pass on every bushel of grain raised in Minnesota and adjoining states and establish grades as fixed by the appeal board, and is known in every market in the world.

Mr. Jacobson was married in the fall of 1885 to Miss Gertrude M. Olson, from Brooklyn, New York. They have had a family of six children, three of whom are still alive.

HON. HALDOR BOEN.

The late Haldor Boen, who was a member of Congress from the state of Minnesota during the early nineties and who during his life was prominent in the civic and political life of this county as well as for many years a prominent newspaper owner and publisher, was born in Sondre Aurdal, Valdres, Norway, on January 1, 1850, and died on July 20, 1912, at Aurdal, Otter Tail county, Minnesota.

In 1868, in company with his two brothers, Andrew E. and Erick E., Haldor Boen emmigrated to the United States and a little later settled at Grand Meadow, Mower county, Minnesota. There they remained with relatives for a short time, when Haldor went to St. Cloud and where he pursued a course in the State Normal school. In 1871 he came to Aurdal, Otter Tail County, and entered a tract of state land, comprising eighty acres. His brother took eighty acres and he built a log house and broke up some of the land. When he was twenty-four years old Mr. Boen was married to Margaret Brekke and, immediately after their marriage, they removed to the homestead which he had previously bought. They remained there until 1888, when they removed to Fergus Falls.

Shortly after removing to Fergus Falls, Mr. Boen purchased a comfortable home on North Union avenue. He served as clerk in the office of the register of deeds at Fergus Falls and was also a clerk in one of the legislative sessions of the eighties, or before he moved to Fergus Falls. In 1887 he was elected register of deeds of Otter Tail county, succeeding George W. Boyington.

Mr. Boen assisted in organizing the Farmers' Alliance in 1884 and became its secretary, holding the position for seven years. The Alliance at that time was coming into prominence all over the state of Minnesota. The Alliance finally decided to enter into politics and became the Populist party. A big landslide occurred in 1889, at which time the new party swept everything before it in this part of the state, and when Kittel Halvorson was elected to Congress, Mr. Boen being one of his prominent supporters and managers. Mr. Halvorson served two years in Congress and in the fall of 1892 Mr. Boen was nominated and elected to Congress as Mr. Halvorson's successor. The prestige of Populism at this time receded and two years later, in 1894, Mr. Boen was defeated by Frank M. Eddy for re-election. Afterward Mr. Boen returned to Fergus Falls and purchased the *Fergus Globe*, which he edited for a number of years or until

failing health compelled him to relinquish the editorial chair, at which time the *Globe* suspended publication.

Mr. and Mrs. Boen had nine children, six of whom are living, namely: Sophia M., Theodora A., Harold, Alvin, Errick and Erwin. Sophia M. is now Mrs. Jacob Qualle and lives near Brooten, Stearns county, and they have two sisters. Theodora A. married Ira Wall, a jeweler, and lives at Washburn, North Dakota, and they have two sons. Harold married Margaret Plowman, and they live in Wadena. Alvine, Erick and Erwin live at home with their mother. Mrs. Boen, whose maiden name was Margaret Brekke, was born in Tellamaken, Norway, and in 1861 came to America with her father, who was a farmer. The family made the trip to America by way of Quebec, Canada. Subsequently, they settled in Dane county, Minnesota, and lived near Liberty Prairie for twelve years. In 1873 the family came to Otter Tail county, and settled in Aurdal township, where they homesteaded land and where the father and mother lived until their death. Mrs. Boen's father died at the age of eighty-seven and her mother at the age of ninety-three. They were the parents of twelve children, seven of whom are living.

Haldor Boen had a conspicuous part in the political history of this section of the state during his day and generation. He worthily discharged all his duties both public and private, which fell to his lot. He was a member of the Odd Fellows.

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SIGURD M. SKROVE.

Successful farmer and stock raiser, public spirited citizen, man of public office and leader in the affairs of local life, Sigurd M. Skrove is one without whose record and a review of whose life this volume would be incomplete. Sigurd M. Skrove was born in Norway, on April 22, 1867, the son of Martin E. and Martha (Skrove) Skrove, who were natives of Norway, in which county they lived until the year 1882, when they came to America. Martin E. Skrove is the son of Elling and Sigrid (Kulstad) Larson, who were born in Norway, where Sigrid Larson lived until her death in the year 1860, while Elling Larson came to America and lived with a son, dying in the year 1897. Martha Skrove is the daughter of Jonas T. and Martha (Hallan) Skrove, who were farmers in their native land of Norway, in which county they lived their entire lives.

On reaching America, Martin E. and Martha Skrove came to the state of Minnesota and located at Fergus Falls, Otter Tail county, where they lived for a time, after which Martin Skrove rented a farm in Douglas county, Minnesota, living there for three years and then moved to Wilkin

county, Minnesota, at which place he homesteaded a farm of one hundred and sixty acres of land, where he now lives, having in the meantime accumulated about three hundred acres of land, all of which is well improved and highly cultivated. Martin E. and Martha Skrove are the parents of six children, Sigurd, Martha, Eline, Ida, Soren and Martin. In church affiliation Martin Skrove and his wife are members of the Norwegian Lutheran church.

Sigurd Skrove was educated in the public schools of Norway and for about three months in the common schools of Douglas county, Minnesota, after which he took up a homestead, during the year 1888, in Wilkin county, Minnesota, where he engaged in general farming and in the digging of wells in the community, until the year 1893, and then he moved to Tumuli township, east of the town of Dalton, in Otter Tail county, where he purchased two hundred and fifteen acres of land, which he improved with a remodeled house and by the addition of modern equipment, where he now engages in general farming and in the breeding of purebred Holstein cattle and Duroc-Jersey hogs.

During the year 1893, Sigurd Skrove was married to Oline Margaret Dahl, who was born in Winneshiek county, Iowa, the daughter of B. C. and Anna (Vick) Dahl, both of whom were natives of Norway, who came to America and settled in Otter Tail county, Minnesota, where they homesteaded a farm in Tumuli township, after a short residence in Winneshiek county, Iowa.

To the marriage of Sigurd and Olnie Skrove were born the following children, Martha, Berten, Neola, Sanford and Milda. Sigurd Skrove and his family are interested and faithful members of the Norwegian Lutheran church at Dalton.

In public life and in official circles, Sigurd Skrove is prominently connected, he now serving the community as justice of the peace, and also as treasurer of the school district. For ten years this worthy citizen held the office of township treasurer and in this office, as with all other public measures or projects, Sigurd Skrove served well and with notable efficiency.

GEORGE BURDICK WRIGHT.

George Burdick Wright, known during his lifetime as the first important figure in the early settlement of Fergus Falls, was a native of Williston, Vermont, where he was born in 1835, the youngest son of Brigham and Urania (Murray) Wright. He received his academic education in his native state and was, by profession, a surveyor or civil engineer, having been actively engaged in that profession until 1860. He located a quarter of a

section of land, where the city of Fergus Falls now stands, on the north side of the river, in 1867, in company with R. J. Mendenhall, of Minneapolis.

These gentlemen formed a partnership and sent a crew of men to their place under the supervision of Henry Dow, who arrived on the site of Fergus Falls, August 19, 1870. At once they commenced the construction of a dam across the Red river. They also commenced the erection of a saw-mill and the next spring built an addition and put in one run of stone for the manufacture of flour. They platted two hundred acres of land on the north side of the river, Mr. Wright having secured forty acres in addition to his former one hundred and sixty. On the south side of the river, they platted one hundred and sixty acres of land and commenced building and improving, this work having been the beginning of the town of Fergus Falls. In 1870 and 1871 they sent a crew of men into the pine timber in the region of what is now the town of Corliss and in the spring of 1871, they rafted the logs down the river and had them cut in their saw-mill in Fergus Falls. Mr. Wright became the sole owner of the unsold interest of Mr. Mendenhall in 1879 and, after that time devoted his entire time and all of the money he could command to the building up and improving of the town.

In 1881 Mr. Wright built what is known as the "Beehive" for a manufactory. He was a man of remarkable energy, just such a man as was needed for the trying times of the early settlement of Fergus Falls and vicinity. He had the faculty of seeing ahead clearly and his conclusions rarely were known to be erroneous. He firmly believed the town, in whose interests he was working, would some time become an important city, but he was destined not to live to see the full fruition of his efforts. His death occurred on April 29, 1882, while he was still in the prime of life, being then only forty-seven years old.

In 1860, George B. Wright married Serena Ames, the adopted daughter of Rev. Charles G. Ames, a distinguished Unitarian clergyman. Mrs. Wright, who is remembered by all her friends for her beautiful character, died in Minneapolis in March, 1868, leaving two young children, Mary and Vernon, the former of whom died in Wilmington, Delaware, in 1881, and in February, 1870, Mr. Wright married, secondly, Mrs. Carrie A. Whitcomb, of California, who brought to their home in Minneapolis, two children of ages corresponding to those of the children of Mr. Wright.

Mr. Wright's early life, his wonderful business qualifications and the pride he took in the city, of which he was the founder, have been described in the following words of his intimate friend, W. A. Croffut: "But scant justice has been done in the published sketches of George B.

Wright to qualities and abilities which made him known to a public beyond the circle of his acquaintances; or to the gifts which he displayed to the infinite amusement of his friends. In a word, Mr. Wright was an exceedingly clever man, with a full appreciation of the deliciously ludicrous; a faculty for molding into form those clever conceits which most Americans like to read, and the power to think deeply and well, and to express his thoughts with very pungent English. Thousands of people who never knew the genial man read the emanations of his pen, which he did not hesitate to father, and the large number of contributions which he made under a *nom de plume*.

"A large part of these emanations of his pen have been preserved in two scrap-books, which the *Pioneer Press* of St. Paul has obtained from the family for reminiscent reproductions. In the second scrap-book much is preserved that he wrote after 1875. Probably nothing was ever done that called Fergus Falls into more public notice than a series of humorous advertisements which he published. He made them so eccentric that people looked for the periodical changes in them. It was his persistence in causing the phrase, "the coming city of the Northwest," to be linked with Fergus Falls, which has undoubtedly joined the name of this city with that phrase for all time. These advertisements were usually headed, 'George B. Wright's Remarks,' and the character of them may be judged from a few specimens such as the following:

"Land! Land!! Land!!! Land!!!!
Mold and loam and clay and sand,
The very ground on which we stand,
(To get it, how we've starved and planned)!
Broad landscape, rivers, mountains grand;
White fields by blizzards gently fanned,
Brown lawns by torrid blazes tanned;
Dry dirt marked out—prospected—panned.
"There's not a thing at man's command,
Not even greenbacks, cash in hand,
Is really real-estate, but land.
Other wrecked crafts may strew the strand;
The tiller of the soil will stand
Peerless; and none with failure brand
The honest hauler of the sand.

"But Mr. Wright did not write simply nonsense, far from it. Some of his best renditions were upon election reforms and university rules, of which latter theory he was one of the principal advocates and put the

elements of the cause into such pungent and impressive English that they attracted attention widely; were commented upon and quoted by the metropolitan press, and provoked general discussion.

"Very many people in Minneapolis and throughout Minnesota will treasure memories of the man and none more than those who possessed his intimate friendship and acquaintance."

HON. HENRY G. PAGE.

The late Henry G. Page, who for forty years was one of the most respected and prominent citizens of Fergus Falls, was a native of Sandwich, New Hampshire, born on March 9, 1832.

The Pages were an old family in New Hampshire, Henry G. Page's grandfather, David C. Page, having resided there and his great-grandfather, Joseph Page, also was born in that state. In 1855 Hon. George Page, the father of Henry G. Page, after serving in the New Hampshire Legislature and being otherwise honored in his own state, decided to join the Western movement and come West with his family. He settled in Carroll county, Illinois. There were but two children in the family and Henry G. Page's only sister died while quite young. Mr. Page's mother died in 1865 and his father in 1867, and he practically was without relatives all the later years of his life, there being no kinsfolk nearer than a cousin.

Before coming West, Henry E. Page attended an academy in his native county and the Northfield Seminary, in Merrimac county, New Hampshire, after which he returned to the farm. Notwithstanding all his other lines of business, he always loved farming and stock raising and found much pleasure in it. In 1867 Mr. Page married Alice Humphrey, who was born in Lewis county, New York, the daughter of Horace and Joanna (Stiles) Humphreys, the former of whom was a merchant and farmer. There were four children in the Humphrey family, three of whom are still living, Mrs. Page, Mrs. Emilo Hagey, of Cedar Rapids, Iowa, and C. H. Humphrey, of Fenton, Iowa.

To Henry E. and Alice (Humphrey) Page was born one son, Henry G., who is living in Pelican Rapids, this county, where he is engaged in the real-estate business. He married Ruth Kinney and they have three children, Henry George, Marian and Rebecca.

In 1867, the elder Henry G. Page engaged in the banking business at Lanark, Illinois, with his brother-in-law, Mr. VanVechten, and dealt more or less in live stock. In 1870, his health failing, he went to Minneapolis, seeking the benefit of the Minnesota climate, expecting to return in the fall of the year; but he gained so much in Minnesota that he decided to

remain. He became interested in this section of the state through George B. Wright and in 1870 personally investigated the region about Fergus Falls. He arrived at the river just as Mr. Buse was finishing the pontoon bridge at Union avenue, in "the coming city of the Northwest," and he was the first to drive across that causeway.

There was practically nothing here at that time even to mark an outpost of civilization, but he bought more or less land in this section, including the farm where the electric light dam at Fergus Falls is now located. In 1872 he personally located in Fergus Falls and organized the First National Bank, James Compton being cashier, while Mr. Page was the president. He was a man full of energy and he at once set about doing other things. He bought the power, now known as the Red river mill-power, of Wright and Mendenhall and, with R. H. Scott, built the first flour-mill in Fergus Falls. Later on Mr. Scott retired and, through James J. Hill, who was building the railroad through here, Andrew G. Todd became interested in the milling business with Mr. Page. Then began that period of Scottish activity which caused Fergus Falls to move at a rapid pace, culminating in the building of the Grand hotel and the big boom of 1882 and 1883. The ideas of his associates were a little too rapid for Mr. Page and he sold out his interest in that mill and built the mill known as the Big A or Cable mill, because it was run by cable power, which was the common method of power distribution in the early days of Fergus Falls. The Red river mill failed, but the Cable mill proved a big success under Mr. Page's careful management. At that time it was thought Fergus Falls would be a second Minneapolis and become a great milling center, as it had both the power and the wheat. Mr. Page was full of energy and enthusiasm for the city and he joined heartily in the movement to build it up. In 1882 he started to build the dam which is now owned by the city, preparatory to building a big mill. It was this step which resulted in wiping out his entire fortune and ended so disastrously to all concerned.

Mr. Page said, in his quiet way, that he was worth at least one hundred and fifty thousand dollars when he started on this enterprise. He had the choicest investments around here. He controlled the Cable mill, he was interested in the First National Bank, and had bought control of and became president of the Fergus Falls National Bank, he owned the Schacht corner and had fifteen hundred acres of land near the city, besides a large amount of other property. The dam cost far more than its promoters expected. The mill with a capacity of six hundred barrels and the elevator and the rest of the plant ran above the estimated cost of construction. From the very outset the mill had a series of disastrous years. Only one year that the big mill was operated, by the Page Milling Company did

it show a profit, as it was impossible to get much wheat from farmers, on account of the location, the grain having to be ground in transit and switched from the Great Northern. The Northern Pacific had not extended very far West at that time. The river went down and there was a series of years with low water, during which the proprietors were forced to run the mill by steam. The final blow came on a wheat market very similar to that of 1909. Wheat was very high. Buyers of flour held off waiting for a new crop. The mill kept grinding and sending its flour to commission merchants, hoping for a sale; only to have the market slump. More than fifty thousand dollars was lost on the season's milling; it was impossible to hold out longer and an assignment was made to C. D. Wright. These years of adversity in connection with the big mill brought out all of Mr. Page's force of character very plainly. There was never any bluster about him, but there was a quiet determination which few men possessed. Fully determined not to let the mill fail, he hung to it with a bull-dog tenacity. To maintain his credit and meet his obligations, he mortgaged everything, even to the part of the homestead, where the casket factory now stands. Following the assignment, in 1890, came the hard times of the years preceding the panic of 1893 and the choice properties which he had, and which would have helped to pay the obligations, brought practically nothing, compared to what they had previously been considered worth. He lost the bank, the A mill, his farms, his horses, his fancy cattle; in short, everything was swept away and in those hard times, they brought almost nothing to pay the debts. In the midst of his financial troubles he was severely injured in a runaway accident, but left his bed long before he ought to have done so, in order to help straighten out his affairs. While still in the hands of the assignee, the big mill, together with the elevator, was destroyed by fire. As there was but little insurance, this calamity completed the disaster, and the valuable power and dam were sold to the city for almost nothing. Mr. Page never fully recovered from the blow resulting from his failure. Though he did all in his power to help those who had lost through his failure, to recover what they could, he never got started again himself.

Henry G. Page was not only prominent in business, but he took an active part in politics and public affairs. In 1874 he was elected state senator from this district in one of the most memorable campaigns ever carried on here. At that time this senatorial district included all the territory between here and Manitoba and some to the south. The Republican organization, which was largely controlled by Hon. E. E. Corliss, nominated Mr. Jorgens, who was county auditor. The opposition was based upon a reform movement, called, as is usually the case in these latter days, the anti monopoly party, and was directed by J. W. Mason, J. P. Williams, George B. Wright

and Mr. Underwood, then editor of the *Journal*. Such things as were too hot to print in the *Journal* were put into a sheet called *The Vanguard*. Hon. R. L. Frazee, then living in Becker county, was nominated for representative on the ticket with Mr. Page and they were elected. Mr. Page had a good majority, and Mr. Frazee's majority was four, while Soren Listoe, on the opposing ticket, was elected as one of the representatives. The principal issue in those days was to get a railroad for Fergus Falls and Mr. Page's work was largely in helping secure legislation which finally resulted in the building of the Fergus Falls division of the St. Paul & Pacific road. Mr. Page was the second mayor of the city of Fergus Falls, serving for two or three terms. He was a member of the board of education for many years. In 1884 he was named by his party as a delegate to the Republican national convention at Chicago, a convention which finally nominated James G. Blaine for the presidency. Mr. Page was not a political leader, but he was always so fair and so willing to do the right thing that when factions got into a fight they could always agree on him as a compromise candidate. He always had his own views and even after he had ceased to be a prominent financial and industrial factor, he never failed to get out and help when there was an issue between right and wrong. Governor Johnson placed him on an important commission to represent Minnesota.

Henry G. Page was a great lover of horses and the first twenty years he was a resident of Otter Tail county, he raised and sold many fine driving horses, although never favoring racing. Driving and training his horses was his favorite recreation and he always had a stable full of the most spirited colts in the locality. It was largely this out-of-door life which enabled him to maintain his health while carrying on his large business affairs. He was one of the first to raise pure-bred cattle and he did much to stimulate the raising of good horses and cattle in this section. Next to having his friends lose through his failure, his greatest grief was to have to give up his stable horses.

Mr. Page was a typical New Englander. He was quiet and unostentatious and always attended strictly to his own business. During the forty years he lived here, no one ever heard of his precipitating or being involved in any trouble. He was very retiring and reticent and, while friendly with all, he never had any confidential friends. He always kept his own counsels. While not called a religious man, no one ever lived a more moral or temperate life. No better citizen ever lived or died in Fergus Falls. While common consent gives the late George B. Wright first place as builder of the city, Henry G. Page was a good second and, had not a seemingly unavoidable disaster come upon him in the very midday of his activities, he might have

been first. In any event, he lived a good life and Fergus Falls will be fortunate, if, in the future, any of its citizens measure up to the standards of Henry G. Page. Mr. Page died on June 20, 1909.

JOHN S. BILLINGS.

It is to the credit of Sheriff John S. Billings that after having served a period of ten years as sheriff of Otter Tail county, he was recalled to that important office in 1909, after a lapse of some eight years, and has efficiently filled the office during this second period of tenure. He is popular among the people of Otter Tail county because he is a very vigilant officer and is possessed of great physical strength and courage. Nevertheless, he is very kind and sociable, and has had a most beneficent influence upon criminals. He has found that many of them have a good side, and many of the criminals who have been under his care attribute their reformation to his counsel and his advice.

Sheriff Billings is a native of Rutland, Vermont, where he was born on March 24, 1852, a son of Leeds and Ann Eliza (Stone) Billings, the former of whom was a farmer and a cattle buyer.

John S. Billings was reared on the home farm in Vermont, and experienced the average routine of the boy born and reared in the country. When he was eighteen years old, he came West to Minneapolis, Minnesota, and for a time worked for his board in Hennepin county. Later he worked on the farm of George B. Wright, who at the time, was engaged in the real-estate business. Mr. Billings remained with Mr. Wright for about a year and then joined George Beardsley, a surveyor, and with him went to Dakota, where they remained two seasons. While in Dakota Mr. Billings purchased two horses and brought them to Fergus Falls. He again entered the employ of Mr. Wright, who had become one of the pioneers of Fergus Falls, and who, in fact, then was the proprietor of the town. He continued in the employ of Mr. Wright until, in partnership with two other men, he purchased the lumber yard owned by Mr. Wright. This lumber yard was operated in partnership until Mr. Billings was elected sheriff in 1891.

After filling the sheriff's office most efficiently for a period of ten years, Mr. Billings declined to be a candidate for re-election. After retiring from office he engaged extensively in the live-stock business, in which he had previously been interested for some time in a small way. Altogether, Mr. Billings followed this business for eight years, but in 1909 he was again elected to the office of sheriff of Otter Tail county, and is now serving his fourth term.

On October 11, 1876, John S. Billings was united in marriage to Belle R. Bowman, a native of Wisconsin, a daughter of James and Lerena (Col-

well) Bowman, and to this union three children have been born, Leeds, who died in infancy; Jesse T., a farmer living near Fergus Falls, who married Julia Gosch, and has one child, Sheldon John, and Lerena, who lives at home with her parents.

Sheriff Billings is considered one of the most prominent officers in the state of Minnesota. He is bright, alert, and is widely noted for the wonderful power he exerts over men with whom he is compelled to deal. Fraternally, Mr. Billings is prominent in the Masonic circles of Otter Tail county, and is a member of the Ancient Order, Nobles of the Mystic Shrine, and of the Knights Templar. He also is a member of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, the Modern Woodmen and the Knights of Pythias.

HON. HANS T. HILLE.

The late Hans T. Hille, who was prominent in the business life of Fergus Falls, this county, for a quarter of a century, was born on February 28, 1852, in Bergen, Norway, and emigrated with his family to America in 1865, when he was only thirteen years old. After the family had arrived on the Atlantic seaboard, they came West, to Fillmore county, Minnesota, and later settled in Aurdal, Otter Tail county, where the father carried on farming for a number of years.

In 1889 Hans T. Hille located in Fergus Falls and engaged in the farm implement business under the firm name of Bartelson & Hille. His partnership with Mr. Bartelson was dissolved in 1907, at which time he formed a partnership with Oscar Wagner. They erected a brick warehouse on Cascade street. After Mr. Hille's death, his son, Thomas, succeeded to his father's position in the firm and this arrangement still continues, the firm name being Hille & Wagner.

During his lifetime, H. T. Hille served as a member of the city council for four years and in 1904 was elected to the Legislature, receiving a very heavy vote. His legislative work was highly creditable to him and to his constituents in Otter Tail county. He was also mayor of Fergus Falls for some time and served in this latter capacity with equal credit. He was eminently successful in everything that he undertook, and was recognized as one of Fergus Falls' most progressive and prosperous business men. He was a power in local financial circles and for some years served as president of the Scandia Bank.

Hans T. Hille married Karen Hallan, who, when six years of age, came to America with her parents, who came West to Kenyon, in Goodhue county, Minnesota, and it was there that Mr. and Mrs. Hille met. To this union eleven children were born, six of whom are still living, namely: Clara,

who married C. M. Langeland and has three children, Correne, Morris and Richard; Julia, who married E. L. Grinols; Thomas A., who succeeded to his father's business at the latter's death, received a common school education and took a commercial course at the Park Region Luther College and the Curtis Business College in Minneapolis; Anna M., who is teaching north of Fergus Falls; Emma, who is teaching school in North Dakota, and Jonas, who is in the employ of Hille & Wagner. During Mr. Hille's latter years he was in poor health, so that the care of his entire business, even before his death, devolved upon his very capable and energetic son, Thomas A. Hille.

The late Hans T. Hille will be long remembered by the people of Fergus Falls and Otter Tail county as an enterprising business man, a most valuable citizen and a most respected and considerate friend and neighbor.

HENRY J. COLLINS.

Among the older residents of Fergus Falls, this county, is the present city clerk of that city, Hon. Henry J. Collins, former auditor of Otter Tail county and well known as a business man and citizen.

Henry J. Collins was born on April 29, 1855, in Christianstad, in the southern part of Sweden, on the Baltic sea, son of John and Nellie (Petersen) Collins, the former of whom was a farmer by occupation during his active life and is still living in his native land at the age of eighty-nine years. His good wife died in 1882.

Henry J. Collins attended the University of Lund, in his native land, from 1868 to 1874, inclusive, qualifying as an expert mathematician. He came to America in 1875 and, after a journey West, settled at Red Wing, this state, where, however, he remained only a short time. He then moved to River Falls, Wisconsin, and worked on the farm of C. V. Guy for three years. Afterward he went to Minneapolis, where he met an old friend, who obtained employment for him in the Goodrich mill, where he remained until 1880.

On March 13, 1880, Henry J. Collins purchased a railway ticket for Fergus Falls, this county, and, after paying for the ticket, had just five dollars and twelve cents in his pocket. After arriving at Fergus Falls, Mr. Collins found employment in the saw-mill, where he worked until it closed down. He then entered the employ of O. C. Chase, who kept a general store, and was employed there until the spring of 1880. He then kept books for Mr. Frankovic until 1890, in which year he was appointed deputy county treasurer, a position which he held for four years. So efficiently did he discharge the duties of this important office that in 1894 he

was elected auditor of Otter Tail county for a term of two years, and was re-elected for two more terms. He is remembered today as one of the most capable auditors Otter Tail county has ever had. In 1889, after the expiration of his long term of service as county auditor, Mr. Collins was engaged in traveling for the Deering Harvester Company, as a collector. In 1900 he began working for the McCormick Company, in the same capacity, and was thus employed for some three or four years. In about 1904 he accepted employment as an accountant from Solo Desky, a well-known clothing merchant, and remained with Mr. Desky until November, 1913, when he was elected clerk of Fergus Falls, a position which he still holds.

By his marriage to Mary Gunerius, a native of Christiana, Norway, Mr. Collins has six children, namely: Helma O., the wife of R. R. Paulson, of Henning, Minnesota, who has two sons, Raymond C. and Howard P.; Ruth P., who married S. F. Bogen and has one daughter, Elna R.; George A., who is a grain inspector; Carl T., who is deputy city clerk under his father; Olive H., who is attending the State Normal College at Moorhead, and Roy W., who is attending school.

Without any intention whatever to bestow credit where credit is not due, it may truthfully be said that Mr. Collins is one of the well-thought-of men of Fergus Falls and is known as a good all-around business man and an expert mathematician. Henry J. Collins is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and of the Modern Woodmen of America and the Collins family are members of the United Lutheran church.

LAFAYETTE R. ADLEY.

Lafayette R. Adley, well known in Otter Tail county, as county superintendent of schools, was born in Maine Prairie township, Stearns county, Minnesota, April 16, 1865, a son of Roswell and Joanna (Blake) Adley, both of whom were natives of the state of Maine. Roswell Adley and wife were the parents of seven children, three of whom were born in Maine, and four in the state of Minnesota. The family emigrated to Massachusetts in an early day, and from that state removed to Maine Prairie township, Stearns county, Minnesota, at an early day in the settlement of that section of the state. About 1870 the family came to Otter Tail county, and located in Maine township.

Lafayette R. Adley attended the district schools of Maine township, this county, receiving his elementary education in a building made of rough boards, wainscoted on the inside with rough boards. After finishing a course in the elementary schools he attended the State Normal School at St. Cloud, and was graduated from that institution, elementary course in 1886.

advanced course, 1898. Later he was graduated from the University of Wisconsin and then took a post-graduate course at the same institution and was thus well prepared for educational work. After finishing his education he engaged in teaching at Northhome, Minnesota, for eighteen months, and in 1907 was called to Fergus Falls to act as assistant county superintendent of the schools, under Miss Knudson. In 1913 Professor Adley was elected superintendent of the county schools, a position which he now holds.

Lafayette R. Adley was married to Elizabeth McClelland, and to this union have been born two daughters, Doris Elizabeth and Abbie. Professor and Mrs. Adley are prominent in the civic and social life of Fergus Falls, and are highly respected throughout the whole community.

PETER A. ANDERSON.

Well known to the people of Otter Tail county and long prominent in the official life of the county, Peter A. Anderson, the register of deeds at Fergus Falls, Minnesota, is a native of Rice county, where he was born on July 8, 1868, the son of Lars and Johanna (Peterson) Anderson, the former of whom was engaged in farming in Rice county, but who late in life removed to Leaf Lake township, this county, where he purchased land and carried on farming until his death, in January, 1912. His widow is now living in Henning, this county.

Peter A. Anderson has served as register of deeds in Otter Tail county for eight years and has been connected with this office for almost twenty-one years, a very striking testimonial of his standing in the community and the high regard bestowed upon him by the people of the county where he lives and where he is best known. Mr. Anderson's early education was obtained in Rice and Otter Tail counties. He attended the Wilmar Seminary, and afterwards taught school in Otter Tail county for two years, after which he became a clerk in the office of the register of deeds, and in 1890 himself was elected to that office. Now, after more than twenty years of continuous service in this office, he is still the genial, capable and efficient public servant who has long been so popular with the people of this county.

By his marriage to Eliza Hanson, a native of Norway, Mr. Anderson has two children, Jennie and Irene, who live at home with their parents. Mr. and Mrs. Anderson are prominent in the social life of Fergus Falls. Fraternally, Mr. Anderson is a member of Corner Stone Lodge No. 99, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons. He also is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, the Modern Woodmen of America and the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks.

CHARLES D. WRIGHT.

In the history of Otter Tail county, the name of Charles D. Wright stands for all that means success in life. For practically a half century he has been prominent in the commercial and industrial life of Fergus Falls, and has performed every duty as an enterprising citizen and man. After a life of ceaseless activity, he is now living more or less retired in Fergus Falls, devoting his attention and time to his many personal business interests. The former president of the First National Bank of Fergus Falls, he was one of the organizers of the Fergus Falls Water Company and president of the company for many years. He was also treasurer of the Gas and Mill Company and the Fergus Falls Water Power Company. In 1885 and 1886 he was mayor of Fergus Falls and he also served as city treasurer for several terms. His business and commercial interests are almost as varied as the commercial history of the county in which he has lived for so many years.

Charles D. Wright is a native of Addison county, Vermont. He was born at Orwell in 1850, the son of Ethan M. and Eliza (Bottum) Wright, both natives of Vermont. Ethan M. Wright was engaged in the mercantile business most of his life and was pre-eminently successful. He was a man of large ideas, socially inclined and careful in all of his dealings with his fellow men. Ethan M. Wright's father was Brigham C. Wright, a substantial farmer of Vermont.

By his marriage to Eliza Bottum, Ethan M. Wright had three sons, one of whom, William B., now deceased, was a well-known banker of the state of Vermont; George M., an attorney, is now living retired in New York City, and Charles D. is the subject of this sketch.

Charles D. Wright spent his early life at home and was educated in the Highland military school, at Worcester, Massachusetts, and at the Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, of Troy, New York. In 1869 Mr. Wright turned his steps westward, coming to Minnesota, where, at Minneapolis, he became associated with his uncle, George B. Wright, in surveying work for the government. In the fall of 1870 he was appointed chief draughtsman in the United States surveyor-general's office at St. Paul, a position which he retained for a period of seven years. While connected with the government survey, Mr. Wright traveled over a considerable portion of the Northwest in company with Andrew Holes, formerly of Moorhead, Minnesota, now deceased, and George G. Beardslev, now deceased, of Grand Forks, North Dakota. They had a magnificent opportunity to examine and locate a great deal of land.

On January 1, 1877, Charles D. Wright located at Fergus Falls, having been elected vice-president of the First National Bank, of that city. At the



CHARLES D. WRIGHT

time the First National Bank was located in Martin's block, with Henry G. Page as president. Mr. Wright continued in the office of vice-president for five years, but in 1882 he was elected to the presidency of the bank, an office which he held continuously until June, 1912. In 1881 a new bank building was erected at the corner of Lincoln and Cascade streets, where the business was continued for three years. On January 1, 1884, the bank moved into a new location on the northeast corner of Lincoln avenue and Mill street. As president of the First National Bank for a period of nearly thirty years, Mr. Wright had an important part in the development of this splendid county.

In 1878 Charles D. Wright was united in marriage to Lucy G. Barney, of Malden, Massachusetts, a daughter of George T. Barney. Mrs. Wright, who died in 1903, bore her husband two children, George B. and Murry S., the former of whom is a graduate of the United States Navy Academy at Annapolis, Maryland, and has been an officer in the United States navy since 1902. He married Margaret Parsons, the daughter of Judge William L. Parsons, of Fergus Falls, and they have one son, William P. Murry S. Wright resides in Fergus Falls.

Charles D. Wright is keenly interested in the history of Otter Tail county. Politically, he is identified with the Republican party. Fraternally, he is identified with the Masons, the Elks and the Knights of Pythias. In Masonry he has attained to the rank of Knight Templar and is a member of Palestine Commandery at Fergus Falls.

JUDGE WILLIAM L. PARSONS.

William L. Parsons, judge of the seventh judicial district of Minnesota, was born in Westfield, New York, in 1858. He was educated in Westfield Academy and later attended Hamilton College where he was graduated in 1878. After being admitted to the practice of law in 1882, Judge Parsons came West and settled in Fergus Falls and from then until 1913 he followed his profession in that place. From 1898 to 1913 he was a federal referee in bankruptcy. In April, 1913, he was appointed judge of the seventh judicial district of Minnesota, and in November, 1914, was elected to that office for a six-year term.

Judge Parsons was married in 1884 to Mary Moorhead McLane, of Westfield, New York, and to this union four children have been born: Margaret, Ruth, Katherine and Marion. Margaret is the wife of George B. Wright, a lieutenant in the United States navy, and has one child, William Parsons. Ruth married Dr. C. C. Burlingame, assistant superintendent of the Fergus Falls state hospital.

EUGENE A. JEWETT.

Thirty-five years ago Fergus Falls, the county seat of Otter Tail county, was little more than a straggling village on the frontier of the great Northwest. Today it is a thriving city, with its banks, its department stores, shops, its varied and successful industries and its magnificent array of fine residences. The bankers of Fergus Falls have had a most important part in the development of this splendid city and one of the oldest bankers in the city and one who is entitled to a large share of the credit for the development of this section, is Eugene A. Jewett, the present cashier of the First National Bank, of Fergus Falls, president of the Erhard State Bank and of the Melby State Bank, and the vice-president of the First State Bank of Dalton, as well as president of the First State Bank at Underwood.

Mr. Jewett is a native of St. Charles, Winona county, Minnesota. He is the son of Haynes and Lydia (Sprague) Jewett, the former of whom was born in Lebanon, New Hampshire, and the latter, at Hingham Centre, Massachusetts. They came West in an early day and, having located near the village of St. Charles, Minnesota, on a farm, continued farming there the remainder of their lives. It was there that Eugene A. Jewett grew to manhood and received his early education.

Although Mr. Jewett was born on the farm, he found his opportunity for success in the counting rooms of various banks, in which he worked before establishing a financial institution on his own account. He was first employed as a clerk in the Dover State Bank, of Dover, a private institution, and, after he had worked there for some time, was employed as a clerk in the private bank owned by J. C. Easton at Lanesboro, Minnesota. From Lanesboro, Mr. Jewett moved to Fargo, North Dakota, where he was employed as teller in the First National Bank of that city. This wide and varied experience as a subordinate in varied financial institutions has been the basis of his larger success of recent years. It may be said truthfully that Eugene A. Jewett was thoroughly well prepared for the vocation to which he has devoted his lifetime.

In December, 1881, Mr. Jewett located at Fergus Falls and there, in co-operation with others, organized the Fergus Falls National Bank, which opened for business in January, 1882, as the Merchants State Bank. Six months later it was converted into the Fergus Falls National Bank, and Mr. Jewett remained as cashier until 1883. On July 9, of that year, he transferred his services to the First National Bank, of Fergus Falls, as cashier, and still holds that position. His tenure in one position in one bank for a period of more than thirty years, is the most striking testimony of his work as a banker and his dependability as a financier, that could be cited.

He is popular with the officers and directors of the bank, with the depositors of the institution and the public generally.

By Eugene A. Jewett's marriage to Ann Basye, who was born in Wisconsin, there has been born one daughter, Helen E. Fraternally, Mr. Jewett is a member of Corner Stone Lodge No. 99, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, and is treasurer of the lodge. He is also a member of Palestine Commandery No. 14, Knights Templar, and is the treasurer of the commandery.

DAVID A. TENNANT.

The largest milling interest in Otter Tail county is the Fergus Flour-Mills Company, which owns, besides two plants in this county, a large mill at Fargo, North Dakota. The president of this concern is David A. Tennant, a well-known and public-spirited citizen of Fergus Falls, who was born in Rossie, St. Lawrence county, New York, the son of Richard and Ann (Livingston) Tennant.

Reared on the farm and educated in the public schools of his native town, David A. Tennant grew to manhood in New York state. He taught school for three winters in New York, or until 1879, when he immigrated to Fairbault, Minnesota. It was at that place that he was introduced to the business which he has since followed so successfully. After having been engaged in the milling business at Fairbault for ten years, in 1889, Mr. Tennant moved to Northfield, Minnesota, and for five years was engaged in the milling business there on his own account. While living there he also operated a mill at Dundas. Following this he was located for a year at Cannon Falls, Minnesota, as the proprietor of a mill, and in 1899 moved to Fergus Falls, this county, where he purchased the Otter Tail mill, which he operated alone for about nine months, at the end of which time, in company with W. B. Windsor, he consolidated the Otter Tail mill with the Allen mill, the consolidation becoming known as the Fergus Flour-Mills Company. Five years later, Mr. Tennant and Mr. Windsor, the controlling stockholders of the company, purchased a mill in Fargo, North Dakota, and in 1912 they purchased the Globe mill at Perham, this county. The entire business was incorporated in 1901 under the title of the Fergus Flour-Mills Company, the present officers being, David A. Tennant, president and manager; Vernon Wright, vice-president; W. B. Windsor, secretary, and C. D. Wright, treasurer.

Aside from his own personal business, Mr. Tennant is interested in the progress and development of his adopted home town and has always taken a commendable interest in worthy public enterprises. Naturally, he is well

known in this section of Minnesota and, as might be expected, his material success in life is founded upon these admirable personal qualities of which he is possessed.

Mr. Tennant was married years ago to Dela Smith, a native of Rochester, Minnesota, who died in 1897, leaving two daughters, Gertrude and Florence A.

HON. WILLIAM H. McBRIDE.

The Hon. William H. McBride, former mayor of Fergus Falls, veteran of the Civil War and one of the most respected residents of Otter Tail county, has resided in the city of Fergus Falls since 1901. Mr. McBride's father was Henry B. McBride, a minister of the gospel in the state of Ohio. His mother's name was Christina (Thursby) McBride.

Born in Summit county, Ohio, where he grew to manhood, William H. McBride was educated in the Greensburg Seminary and, at the beginning of the Civil War, enlisted at Massillon, Ohio, in Company I, Seventy-sixth Regiment, Ohio Volunteer Infantry, in which he served three years and nine months and received an honorable discharge in Columbus, Ohio, after which he removed to Iowa, where, in several places in that state, he studied law for some years. Subsequently, he removed to Kansas, where he was admitted to the bar and where he remained in the practice of his profession during a period of twenty-four years, during which time he served variously as a member of the Legislature, insurance commissioner and director of the penitentiary.

In 1901 Mr. McBride moved to Fergus Falls, this county, and engaged in the land and farm-loan business, which he still follows. Mr. McBride served as mayor of Fergus Falls for some time. He is a well-known member of the Masonic fraternity. He was admitted to the order in Chariton, Iowa, in 1866 and demitted to the Council Bluffs lodge. Upon taking up his residence at Fergus Falls, he became a member of Corner Stone Lodge No. 99. Mr. McBride is also a member of the Grand Army of the Republic.

NICOLAI F. FIELD.

Among the many enterprising citizens of Fergus Falls, this county, who have risen high in the estimation of their fellow citizens and who have received honors of no mean importance within the gift of their fellow townsmen, is Nicolai F. Field, attorney-at-law, referee in bankruptcy and abstractor of titles.

Nicolai F. Field was born on August 13, 1872, in Murray county, Minnesota. His parents were natives of Norway, who came to America

about 1870. The father, Fred N. Field, was a register of deeds in Otter Tail county for six years and is now associated with his son in the abstract business. Nicolai F. Field is the eldest of a family of eleven children.

Mr. Field was reared on the farm and his early education was obtained in the country schools. After his graduation from the common schools, he entered the Fergus Falls high school and was graduated with the class of 1894. During the next three years he served as deputy register of deeds of Otter Tail county, under his father. He was then employed in the bank operated by F. G. Barrows for one year, at the end of which time he concluded to take up the study of law and in 1897 entered the law department of Drake University, at Des Moines, Iowa. After completing a two-years course, he was graduated with the degree of Bachelor of Laws in 1899. Admitted to the bar of Minnesota in 1899 with the highest grade received in the examination of any applicant admitted at that time, he opened a law office in the Pickett block in Fergus Falls, in June, 1899. Mr. Field has since moved his offices to the Fergus Falls National Bank building and enjoys an extensive practice.

In September, 1900, Nicolai F. Field was married, in Fergus Falls, to Ida Adams, the daughter of Charles Adams, who, prior to her marriage, was a well-known and successful teacher in Otter Tail county. Mr. and Mrs. Field have three children, Ruth, Cyrus and Margaret.

Fraternally, Mr. Field is a member of Corner Stone Lodge No. 99, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, and is also a member of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks.

ARTHUR M. CORLISS.

The Corliss family is a very old family in America, and Arthur M. Corliss, the present chief of police at Fergus Falls, this county, is a scion of this distinguished family.

Arthur M. Corliss was born in Wilkin county, Minnesota, on December 17, 1880, son of Charles M. and Emma O. (Hinkston) Corliss, the former of whom was born in Wisconsin and who emigrated to Minnesota at an early date. Charles M. Corliss was employed in the mill at Balmoral, in this county, where he worked for a time, after which he removed to Battle Lake, where he remained a year and then removed to Wilkin county, where he acquired land and carried on farming until 1904, when he retired from the farm and removed to Fergus Falls, where he still resides.

Chief Arthur M. Corliss, the subject of this sketch, was reared on the home farm in Wilkin county, where he attended the district schools. He also attended school in Pelican Falls and at Battle Lake. When Mr. Corliss was

twenty years old, he married and afterward moved to Stulman county, North Dakota, where he engaged in farming for seven years. In 1908 he returned to Otter Tail county and located in Fergus Falls four years after his father had removed to that city. From 1908 until 1914 Mr. Corliss was engaged in the land business. In 1914 he was appointed chief of police and is now filling that important office with credit to himself and to the community he serves.

To Arthur M. and Lillie (Erickson) Corliss five children were born, Clarence M., Ethel M., Gladys L., Ruth M. (deceased) and Earl D. Mrs. Lillie (Erickson) Corliss died in 1913, and afterward Mr. Corliss married, secondly, Florence Candaux, to which union one child has been born, James Franklin.

Chief Corliss is one of the most efficient police officers in the history of Fergus Falls. Not only is he efficient in the position which he fills, but he is popular with all classes of people in this city, and is doing a good work. Fraternally, Chief Corliss is a member of Lodge No. 59, Independent Order of Odd Fellows, a member of Hazel Lodge No. 31, Daughters of Rebekah, and of Aerie No. 888, Fraternal Order of Eagles.

GEORGE H. GARD.

Another one of Otter Tail county's prominent citizens who was born and reared on the farm is George H. Gard, who having filled an unexpired term as clerk of the district court, by appointment, was elected to the position in 1912, and has acquitted himself with rare credit in discharging the duties of that important office.

George H. Gard is a native of Elkhart, Logan county, Illinois, and is the son of John W. and Kesiah (Dunn) Gard. John W. Gard was born in Jeffersonville, Indiana, and his wife was a native of the same vicinity. Mr. Gard's parents were farmers by occupation and his father died in Illinois in February, 1911, his mother having passed away about ten years previously, in September, 1901. There were four children in the Gard family, namely: Elizabeth, who married Silas E. Beebe, of Jacksonville, Illinois, and died on June 5, 1915; Charles W., who married an Illinois girl, and lives in Middletown, Illinois; George H., the subject of this sketch, and Minnie, the wife of Edward Barry, of Elkhart, Illinois.

After having spent his early life on the farm, where he was born and reared, George H. Gard was employed in a general store in Elkhart. After attaining maturity, he went to Springfield, Illinois, where for two years he worked in a wholesale crockery store. In 1896 Mr. Gard came to Minnesota, locating at Fergus Falls, where he became a clerk in the stew-

ard's department of the state hospital. After having been employed at the state hospital for four years, Mr. Gard took up life-insurance work, which he followed for about one year. He was then appointed city clerk and held that office until 1909, after which he became manager of the telephone company at Fergus Falls and continued thus engaged for two years, or until 1911, when he was appointed to fill out an unexpired term as clerk of the district court. So well did he discharge the duties of this office that in 1912 he was elected by the people of Otter Tail county, by a substantial majority, to fill the office for a term of four years.

Not many men in Otter Tail county are better known than George H. Gard and not many men enjoy warmer and more lasting friendship than he. Fraternally, he is a member of Corner Stone Lodge No. 99, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, and is also a member of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks.

By his marriage to Augusta Hendrickson, who died in 1910, Mr. Gard had three children, Donald L., John Russell and Dorothy. On December 20, 1914, Mr. Gard married, secondly, Julia Hall, who was born in North Dakota, a daughter of M. O. Hall, now a well-known resident of Minneapolis.

LEVOR A. LEVORSEN.

Among the well-known citizens of Fergus Falls, Minnesota, is Levor A. Levorsen, deputy clerk of the United States court at Fergus Falls, who is a native of the parish of Rollag, Nummedal, Norway, where he was born on April 5, 1859, the son of Amund and Ingeborg (Helle) Levorsen. The Levorsen family emigrated to America in 1868 and, after landing in New York city on July 4, of that year, came West, settling at Clinton Junction, Wisconsin, where they remained for two years. In 1870 the family moved to Pelican Rapids, this county, and there the father homesteaded a quarter of a section of prairie land. He built a dugout and broke the land. Later a log house was erected and still later a fine frame house, where the family lived until 1902, when the father sold the farm and moved to Williamsburg, Virginia, where he is still living at the age of eighty years. His wife died in 1910, in her seventy-eighth year. While a resident of Otter Tail county, Amund Levorsen took an active part in public affairs. He held practically all of the local offices in the town, from the chairman of the board of supervisors to assessor, and was also chairman of the board of county commissioners for several years. As chairman of the board of county commissioners, he was largely instrumental in the erection of the county court house. He is now living in retirement and is a noble specimen of thoroughly ripe American manhood.

Levor A. Levorsen received his early education in the public schools at Pelican Rapids. After growing to manhood, he moved to Fergus Falls and accepted a position as clerk in the office of the county auditor. After the first year, Mr. Levorsen was made deputy auditor and held that office for three years. He was then appointed deputy clerk of the district court under the administration of C. J. Wright and held that position for five years. When Mr. Wright retired, he succeeded him as clerk, and held the position for four years. Mr. Levorsen then engaged in the abstract business and was very successful until the time of his retirement from business, in 1898, when he was elected register of deeds. After having held that position for eight years, he was appointed deputy clerk of the United States court, and this position he now holds.

Levor A. Levorsen married Laura Larson, a native of Wisconsin, who was born near Grantsburg, and to this union have been born four children: Irving, who is now a student in the department of mining engineering at the University of Minnesota; Frances, Kingdon and Richard, who live at home with their parents.

FRED EVERETT HODGSON.

Fred Everett Hodgson, a well-known real-estate dealer of Fergus Falls, this county, and the son of the late Thomas C. and Eliza (Clague) Hodgson, was born in Castle Rock, Minnesota, on August 16, 1872. His father, as set out in a biographical sketch presented elsewhere in this volume, was a native of the Isle of Man, off the English coast, who emigrated with his parents to America in 1844.

Fred E. Hodgson located at Herman, Grant county, Minnesota, with his parents, in 1877, and there received his elementary education. Later he attended the public schools of Fergus Falls, to which city his parents had moved. Growing to manhood in Otter Tail county, he attended the State Agricultural College and spent one year at the University of Minnesota. After leaving school, he became a collector and a credit man for Dunham & Eastman, wholesale grocers of St. Paul. After being employed by this company for six years, Mr. Hodgson took charge of the business affairs of an uncle, Edward J. Hodgson, of St. Paul, and then removed to Morris, Minnesota, where he engaged in the real-estate and mortgage-loan business. In 1901 Mr. Hodgson located in Fergus Falls and established the same business in that city. His business has become large and profitable and he is recognized today as a conservative and well-rounded business man.

On July 11, 1901, Fred E. Hodgson was married to Anastasia Haley, and to this union there have been born three children, Thomas Haley, born

on June 2, 1902; Corrin Haley, June 7, 1908, and Anastasia Haley, March 29, 1912.

Fraternally, Mr. Hodgson is a member of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks. He is a member of the city charter commission and the city council, and has contributed much to the welfare of this city.

THOMAS C. HODGSON.

The late Thomas C. Hodgson, who was a well-known resident of Otter Tail county, and who was a highly-respected citizen of Fergus Falls at the time of his death, on September 7, 1913, will be long remembered by the people of both this city and county, as a man of strong intellect and a leader among his fellow citizens. He believed firmly and thoroughly in the fatherhood of God and the brotherhood of man, and his career was a fitting example of the humble efforts of a Christian gentleman to live according to the dictates of his own conscience. It may be said that the keynote of his character was breadth. He was tolerant towards all, charitable of his judgment and courteous in every relation of life. He was possessed of a keen and logical mind and took a deep interest in all public matters.

Born on January 1, 1843, in the Isle of Man, the late Thomas C. Hodgson, in his long and interesting career, displayed the sterling attributes of the noble men who have come from the well-known isle of his birth. He was but a babe in arms when his parents came to America in 1844. They located in Galena, Illinois, and remained there until 1854, in which year they removed to Dakota county, Minnesota. There the elder Hodgson engaged in farming, and it was there that Thomas C. Hodgson grew to manhood. When he was eighteen years old, the Civil War broke out and on August 15, 1862, he enlisted in the Eighth Regiment, Minnesota Volunteer Infantry. The first service of this regiment was performed in suppressing an Indian insurrection in 1863. After this frontier warfare with the Indians the regiment participated in a number of severe engagements, including the sanguinary battle of Murfreesboro, Tennessee.

At the close of the war Mr. Hodgson returned to Dakota county, Minnesota, where his parents lived. In 1868 he was married and after his marriage lived in Castle Rock, where four of his children were born. Nine years later he removed with his family to Herman, Grant county, Minnesota, where he homesteaded a farm and where he taught school. He also served his community as justice of the peace and for thirteen years was superintendent of the schools in Grant county, resigning that position to become assistant grain inspector under Governor McGill. In 1890 the family finally removed to Fergus Falls, in order that the Hodgson children might attend school. Two or three years later the family moved to Ham-

line, where the children attended college. In 1907, however, they returned to Fergus Falls and there Mr. Hodgson died on September 7, 1913.

During his long and varied services as a public official and private citizen, Thomas C. Hodgson displayed a keen and logical mind and a deep interest in all public affairs. He was a writer and speaker and rendered valuable assistance to the movements and causes in which he believed. As a country-bred boy, he was studious and naturally craved knowledge. Books interested him very much, and this proved a great source of benefit and comfort to him in his later years. It can be said that to a great extent he was a self-educated and self-made man.

To Thomas C. and Eliza (Clague) Hodgson there were born nine children, namely: Dr. John E., of Spokane, Washington; Fred E., of Fergus Falls; Rev. William C., of Minneapolis; Frank C., well-known attorney of St. Paul; Isabel C., who married J. P. Anderson; Drusilla M., who married Charles Nelson; Kathryn, who married A. C. Baker; Genevieve, a student of Hamline College, and Mary L., a teacher at Rochester, Minnesota.

As a citizen of his adopted country, as a neighbor among men and as a father and husband, Thomas C. Hodgson was beloved by all. His untimely death was a distinct shock not only to his family, but to a host of friends whose companionship he enjoyed throughout life.

JAMES A. BROWN.

Among the oldest and best-known lawyers of Fergus Falls, this county, who, besides being a lawyer, is prominent in the industrial and financial circles of Otter Tail county, is James A. Brown, a native of Chautauqua county, New York. The extent of his industrial and financial interests will appear from a plain statement of facts. He is the president of the Fergus Packing Company, president of the Fergus Falls Iron Works Company, president of the First National Bank, of Deer Creek, and president of the First State Bank, of Powers Lake, North Dakota. He is also secretary of the James Land and Mining Company, with property near Brainard. Moreover, he has been prominent in religious circles in Otter Tail county and is one of the substantial members of the Episcopal church in this section of the state.

James A. Brown is the son of Ira B. and Ursula (Alverson) Brown. Ira B. Brown was a native of New York state and a well-known and successful farmer in the Empire state. He was of English descent. His wife was of Scottish descent.

James A. Brown received his early education in the Forestville Academy, at Forestville, New York. Afterward he entered Hamilton College and was, for several years, a student at that institution, receiving the degrees

of Bachelor of Arts and of Master of Arts. From Hamilton College, Mr. Brown went to Oxford, New York, where, for some time, he was principal of the Oxford Academy.

Two years after Mr. Brown's marriage, he came West, locating at Fergus Falls, and three years after settling there was admitted to the practice of law and soon thereafter engaged in the practice with W. L. Parsons as a partner, an arrangement which continued until 1911, since which time Mr. Brown has been practicing alone.

In 1881 James A. Brown was married to Mai Mygatt, a daughter of Henry and Maria (Tracy) Mygatt. Mr. and Mrs. Brown have no children.

Since coming to Minnesota, Mr. Brown has taken an active interest in religious affairs. He is a trustee of the Episcopal diocese of Duluth and one of the members of the standing committee. He was also a delegate to the convention of the Episcopal church in Cincinnati in 1910 and to the convention at New York in 1913. He is the treasurer and a vestryman of the St. James church of Fergus Falls. His life is, therefore, a well-rounded one and well divided among the various interests which ought to attract the attention and interests of a normal man living in the average American community. His well-rounded conception of life has made him a most valuable citizen of Otter Tail county, where he is highly respected and where he enjoys the esteem of his neighbors and fellow townsmen. In the strictest sense of the word, he is a man of affairs and interested in everything which pertains to the welfare of his home city and county.

GEORGE W. FRANKBERG.

George W. Frankberg, a successful lawyer, of Fergus Falls, this county, who is rapidly building up a large and lucrative practice in Otter Tail county, is a native of Fergus Falls, having been born there on December 20, 1882, the son of Erick and Louise (Johnson) Frankberg, and the grandson of Andrew and Britta (Johnson) Berg. Mr. Frankberg's father and mother were natives of Sweden, a biographical sketch of whom is presented elsewhere in this volume.

George W. Frankberg obtained his early education in his native city. He was graduated from the high school in 1900 and afterward entered the State University, where he spent one year in the academic department and one year in the department of law. Mr. Frankberg was admitted to the practice of law in 1904 and, in company with John L. Townley, commenced the practice of his profession in Fergus Falls. This partnership continued during a period of five years, after which the firm was dissolved, since which time Mr. Frankberg has continued the practice alone. He does a good business and his practice is rapidly increasing.

Mr. Frankberg was married to Mary C. Cooper, daughter of Henry and Mary (Jones) Cooper. No children have been born to this union.

Fraternally, Mr. Frankberg is a member of Corner Stone Lodge No. 99, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons. He is also a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, the Modern Woodmen of America and the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks. Mr. Frankberg is also a prominent member of the Chippewa Club, of Fergus Falls, and is very popular among his hosts of friends hereabout.

GEORGE F. COWING.

George F. Cowing, one of the sturdy pioneers of Fergus Falls and Otter Tail county, a man of absolute integrity and unflinching courage, who died on September 16, 1908, was a member of the bar for twenty-two years and prior to his taking to the practice of law was engaged in the mercantile business. In fact, he was one of the pioneer merchants of Fergus Falls, as well as one of its pioneer lawyers.

The late George F. Cowing was born on February 26, 1840, at Hexam, England, and was the son of Thomas and Jane (Head) Cowing, the former of whom was a railway superintendent in the old country. In 1850 the Cowing family emigrated to America and, after arriving on the Atlantic seaboard, came West, locating at Sun Prairie, Wisconsin, where the father took up land and carried on farming until about 1860, when they moved to Holmes City, near Alexandria, in Douglas county, Minnesota. There they were living at the time of the Indian insurrection, when all of the buildings were destroyed by the Indians and the families were compelled to take refuge in St. Cloud. Afterwards they came to Alexandria, where the father operated a hotel and a market garden and where he spent the rest of his life.

George F. Cowing received his very early education in England. In America he attended the Bigford Academy in Walworth county and Albion College in Dane county, Wisconsin, where he studied law. His studies were interrupted, however, by the breaking out of the Civil War. In 1862 Mr. Cowing enlisted in Company K, Twenty-eighth Regiment, Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry. He was mustered into the service as an orderly sergeant, and was in many battles. He was discharged at Milwaukee, Wisconsin, in 1865, after the close of the war.

After the war, George F. Cowing returned to Alexandria, which was at that time a frontier town. Soon afterwards he engaged in the saw-mill business with a Mr. Hicks. He followed this business for a time and then sold out and engaged in the mercantile business in Old Chippewa, near the present site of Brandon, Douglas county, Minnesota. Prior to selling out,

however, he went to Fergus Falls, in 1870, and established a general store. The next year, accompanied by his wife, he moved to Fergus Falls and continued in the mercantile business until 1873, when he was elected superintendent of schools. He held that position for thirteen years, during which time he was also fitting himself for the practice of law. He was soon afterwards admitted to the bar, and in this profession he was engaged during the balance of his life. He built up a large and lucrative practice in Otter Tail county and was a man not only well learned in the law, but also an able counselor and a successful pleader in court.

On December 28, 1868, George F. Cowing was married in Hudson township, Douglas county, Minnesota, to Penelope M. Strang, who was born in St. Charles, Illinois, the daughter of Joseph and Elizabeth (Murry) Strang, who moved from Illinois to Minnesota, where her father farmed for many years. Finally he removed to Alexandria, where he lived with his son, George J. Strang, until his death. Mr. and Mrs. Cowing were the parents of four children, Irene J., who married Homer D. Russell, of Chicago, Illinois, and has one child, Wallace C., now twenty-three years old; Mrs. Irene J. Russell, who died in 1906; Dr. Philip G., who lives in Montana, and who married Helena Everson, and Robert M., a resident of Chicago, who married Leona Lochner.

Mr. Cowing was a member of Corner Stone Lodge No. 99, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, and rose to the rank of Knight Templar. He was a ready and fluent speaker and a man who was popular, especially at fraternal and public gatherings of all kinds. His untimely death was a distinct shock and was keenly felt by the people of Otter Tail county.

LEWIS L. RILEY.

Lewis L. Riley, a prosperous live-stock dealer of Fergus Falls, Minnesota, was born in the town of Massena, St. Lawrence county, New York, on June 15, 1866. He is the son of Plyn and Sophia (Wilson) Riley, both of whom were natives of Ireland and who came to America and settled in New York state in pioneer times.

Lewis L. Riley received his early education in Massena, passing through the usual routine which falls to the lot of the average boy. Mr. Riley was reared on the farm, and his parents dying while he was still a mere lad, he was obliged to look out for himself. In 1891 he came to Fergus Falls when he was about twenty-five years old and at the time was glad to do anything to make an honest dollar. The first thing he did was to clip the horse owned by Doctor Duncan. His next employment was as night watchman over Adelphet Gohein, who had murdered a woman by the name of Rosa Bray. Mr. Riley next did collecting for W. P. Bayley

for several months and afterward went to Henning, where he operated a drug store for five and one-half years.

After selling out at Henning Mr. Riley removed to Battle Lake, where he engaged in the hotel business for two and one-half years. Upon returning to Fergus Falls, he engaged in the live-stock business with Mr. Billing and was with him altogether for twelve years, at the end of which time he purchased Mr. Billing's interest in the business and has since continued on his own account.

Lewis L. Riley was married to Alice Rutley, who was born on an island in the St. Lawrence river. They have one daughter, Harriet Lucile, who was born on September 12, 1895.

Among his other interests Mr. Riley and wife are prominent in the social life of Fergus Falls, Mr. Riley being a member of the Chippewa Club. He is a member of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks.

JOHN O. BARKE.

One of the oldest members of the Otter Tail county bar is John O. Barke, who has been a practicing attorney in Fergus Falls for the past thirty-five years. In addition to the law practice, Mr. Barke has given his attention to the sale of city real estate and farm lands. Since its establishment, in 1892, he has been secretary and trustee of the Park Region Lutheran College. John O. Barke was born near the city of Stavangee, Norway, November 12, 1850. His father, Ove J. Barke, was a farmer and contractor in Norway, who emigrated to America in 1870. He came West and settled in Story county, Iowa. Mr. Barke's paternal grandfather, John O. Barke, served in the Norwegian army during the war between Sweden and Denmark. Mr. Barke's mother, before her marriage, was Ellen Anderson, also a native of Norway, whose people were farmers in their native land.

Reared on the home farm, John O. Barke received a common-school education in Norway, and then took a short course in a Latin school at Stavangee. Shortly after completing his education he came to America, and for a time was a student in the Luther College at Decorah, Iowa. Later he attended the North Missouri State Normal School, and from time to time he taught school that he might earn enough money to pay the expenses incident to completing his education. During all this time, however, he was giving considerable thought and attention to the study of law, and in 1878 entered the law department of what is now Drake University, at Des Moines, Iowa, and was graduated from that institution in June, 1880, with the degree of Bachelor of Law.

In 1880 Mr. Barke came to Otter Tail county and opened a law office in Fergus Falls, having been admitted to the practice of his profession in

Minnesota and Iowa the same year. Mr. Barke has followed the active practice of law for thirty-five years, and is now one of the oldest members of the bar in Otter Tail county.

In 1882 John O. Barke was married to Bertha Nelson, a native of Illinois, and the daughter of Seward Nelson, a native of Norway. Mr. and Mrs. Barke are the parents of five children, namely: Ellen J., a teacher; Dr. Owen S., a dentist, who died in May, 1914; Arthur R., who is associated with his father in the practice of law; Ralph J. and Bertha G., who live at home with their parents. Mr. and Mrs. Barke and their children constitute a delightful family, and all enjoy a large measure of popularity in Otter Tail county.

FRANK H. GRAY.

One of the early comers to Fergus Falls, Minnesota, who has had a large part in the commercial history of Otter Tail county, and who is descended from a distinguished family, is Frank H. Gray, secretary of the Lamson-Gray Company. Mr. Gray has a medal which was presented to his grandfather, James Gray, by Commodore Perry, for meritorious conduct and bravery in the naval battles on Lake Erie during the War of 1812.

Frank H. Gray was born in Platteville, Wisconsin, in 1846, and is a son of Neely and Adaline (Stark) Gray. His father was a native of Virginia, who came north with his parents to Uniontown, Pennsylvania. After growing to manhood in the state of Pennsylvania, Neely Gray emigrated to Platteville, Wisconsin, where he built a flouring-mill, which he himself operated. He was a member of the Constitutional Convention of Wisconsin, and after his removal to Madison, the capital city of the state, he engaged in the coal and grain business there. His death occurred in Madison, Wisconsin, in 1875, while his wife passed away in the same city in 1885. They were the parents of four children, all of whom are deceased except Frank H. The deceased children are Henry L., Ellen J. and Arthur I.

Frank H. Gray received his early educational training in the public schools of Wisconsin, later attending the State University at Madison, and after finishing his education, engaged in the coal business in partnership with a Mr. Conklin, under the firm name of Conklin & Gray. This partnership arrangement continued for fifteen years, until 1881, when Mr. Gray came to Fergus Falls, Minnesota, and in partnership with a Mr. Daley, under the firm name of Daley & Gray, engaged in the shoe business for three or four years. Later Mr. Gray sold out his interests in this business and engaged again in the coal business until 1912, when he became associated with Mr. Lamson in the contract building business under the firm name of Lamson-Gray Company.

Frank H. Gray's first wife was Fanny Robbins, who was born in Platteville, Wisconsin. Her father served seven terms in the Wisconsin state Legislature, and was a prominent man in the public life of that state. By his first marriage there were born two children: Neely H., manager for the Charles Wright Company, married a Miss McConnell, and they have one daughter, Margaret; Roderick, who was the second child of Mr. Gray's first marriage, is deceased. Some years afterward Mr. Gray was married to Mary Underwood, the daughter of H. J. Underwood, who was the founder of the *Fergus Falls Journal*. To this union there have been born four children, Donald U., Franklin H., Jr., Robert (deceased) and Marion.

Mr. Gray is a member of the Federated church, and has been active in this denomination for many years.

HARRY M. WHEELOCK.

The *Wheelock Weekly* is well known to the people of Otter Tail county; in fact, is well known to the people of the state of Minnesota, who read newspapers, and this means a large percentage of the population. Harry M. Wheelock, the editor and proprietor of the paper, and postmaster of Fergus Falls since 1914, is prominent in the public life of Otter Tail county.

Harry M. Wheelock was born at Fredonia, New York, June 14, 1859, a son of Theodore Bainbridge and Eva (Jennings) Wheelock, the former of whom, born in Mendon, Worcester county, Massachusetts, is still living at the age of eighty-one years, and the latter born in Connecticut, died in 1880, at Duluth, Minnesota. Mrs. Wheelock's father was superintendent of a woolen mill at Bridgeport, Connecticut. Theodore B. Wheelock and wife were the parents of two sons: Harry M., the immediate subject of this review, and Leland L., who is now a resident of St. Paul, Minnesota.

Harry M. Wheelock received his education in the normal school at Fredonia, New York, and at an early age became a printer's apprentice, and after completing his apprenticeship at Fredonia, worked at his trade in various parts of the East and West. In 1882 he settled at Fergus Falls, this county, to assist in the establishment of the *Daily Telegram*, and for two years he was connected with that paper. In 1884, in partnership with Capt. J. D. Wood, Mr. Wheelock established the *Fergus Falls Democrat*. A few years later he became connected with the *Fergus Falls Journal*, as local editor. In 1893 Mr. Wheelock severed his connection with the *Fergus Falls Journal* in order to become receiver for a bicycle factory. In 1895 Mr. Wheelock established the weekly newspaper which bears his name. He offered a prize for a suitable title, and for a number of issues, the paper



HARRY M. WHEELOCK.

appeared with simply a question mark for the heading. The name, *Wheelock's Weekly*, was finally decided upon as a suitable name.

Mr. Wheelock is widely and favorably known as an active newspaper worker, and one who understands all departments of a modern newspaper. He is rated as one of the best writers and managers in the state, and it can be truthfully said that the pen in his hand is mightier than the sword. In 1914 Mr. Wheelock became postmaster of Fergus Falls by appointment from President Wilson. He is a member of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, and is first vice-president of the Editorial Association of Minnesota.

Some years ago Mr. Wheelock was married to Alice Josephine Buck, who was born in Rochester, Minnesota.

CAPT. OSMER C. CHASE.

Among the old-time residents and well-known citizens of Fergus Falls, Minnesota, is the venerable Capt. Osmer C. Chase, steward of the Minnesota state hospital, at Fergus Falls, for the past twenty-six years, having been appointed to the position in 1889. His long tenure of service in this position is a tribute not only to his skill and his ability, but also to the genial personality of which he is possessed and which has made his tenure a most pleasant experience in the official life of this great institution.

A native of Darian, Genesee county, New York, Capt. Osmer C. Chase was born in 1838, and is the son of John and Sophia (Dimock) Chase, the former of whom was a native of Otsego, New York, and the latter of Northampton, Massachusetts. In 1841 the entire Chase family removed to Ohio, where John Chase became a farmer and storekeeper in Geauga county, about twenty-four miles from Cleveland. It was here that Osmer C. Chase was reared. He was a student at Hiram College when the Civil War broke out, and this seriously interfered with the completion of his education. In 1861 he joined the Sixth Ohio Volunteer Cavalry under Wade and Hutchins and saw active service for some time. He was later transferred to Company E, One Hundred and Seventy-seventh Regiment, Ohio Volunteer Infantry, a company of which he was instrumental in organizing and of which he became captain. He was honorably discharged in Cleveland, Ohio, on July 7, 1865, and upon this occasion was presented with a beautiful gold watch and chain by the survivors of his company. After living in Ohio for a time, Captain Chase left the state for the oil regions of Pennsylvania and there he remained for a few months. While a soldier in the Union army his parents had removed to Lake Geneva, Wisconsin, and in the year 1866 Captain Chase also joined his parents

in the state of Wisconsin, purchasing a tract of land near his father's farm. There he engaged in farming for six years, when he removed to Elkhorn and established a general store, which he operated for four years. In 1870 he came to Fergus Falls and opened a store for a year under the name of O. C. Chase, and later for some time under the firm name of O. C. Chase & Company. Subsequently, however, he sold the store to a Mr. Grant and engaged in the manufacture of cheese at Fergus Falls. He operated a large factory and did a prosperous business for three or four years, when he sold out. In 1889 Captain Chase entered the employ of the state as the steward of the state hospital, a position which he has so ably held for more than a quarter of a century.

In 1869 Capt. Osmer C. Chase was married to Delia Potter, and they are the parents of two daughters, Etta May and Alice Catherine. The former is now the wife of Dr. H. J. Laffitte, and the latter is the wife of E. J. Fairbanks. Mr. and Mrs. Chase are well known in the social and civic life of Fergus Falls and Otter Tail county and are popular among all classes of people. Captain Chase is a prominent member of the Masonic fraternity, having joined this historic order at Elkhorn, Wisconsin, and having later affiliated with Corner Stone Lodge No. 99, of Fergus Falls, Minnesota. He is a good man and a good citizen, well known and highly respected in the county which has been his home for so many years.

WILLIAM P. BAYLEY.

The world is always willing to honor self-made men, men who, by their own exertion and industry, step by step mount the ladder of success. Among the men well known to Fergus Falls and Otter Tail county, Minnesota, who have succeeded in this way is William P. Bayley, who is engaged in the real-estate, loan and collection business. Mr. Bayley is a native of St. Lawrence county, New York, having been born in Massena, June 10, 1857. He is the son of William M. and Laura M. (Felch) Bayley.

The paternal great-grandfather of Mr. Bayley was a native of Ireland and a farmer by occupation, who immigrated to America and settled in Vermont in an early day. In 1835 the family moved to New York state. The late William M. Bayley was a farmer by occupation and his wife, a native of Vermont, was of Welsh descent, her father having been a clergyman, who was drowned at sea. William P. Bayley is the fourth child in a family of five children. He was reared on a farm and received his early education in the district schools of New York state. When Mr. Bayley was sixteen years old he entered the high school at Massena, where he was graduated at the age of twenty. In 1878 he moved to Alexandria, Minnesota, where he was employed for two or three years in the farming imple-

ment business. In 1883 he moved to Fargo, North Dakota, and was there employed by the Walter A. Woods Harvester Company. For several years previously, he had been quietly yet persistently equipping himself for the practice of law. In 1886 he located in Fergus Falls, where he continued in the study of law, being admitted to the bar on March 22, 1888. After his admission to the bar, Mr. Bayley opened a law office in Fergus Falls and engaged in the practice of law, in the real-estate, loan and collection business. He has a large clientage in Otter Tail county and enjoys a large, prosperous and growing business.

On January 31, 1884, William P. Bayley was married to Amanda L. Stearns, a native of New York state, having been born at Louisville, New York. Mrs. Bayley is the daughter of A. C. Stearns, a scion of an old English family. After her graduation from the high school, Mrs. Bayley attended the Lawrenceville Academy and then taught school in the state of New York until the time of her marriage. Mr. and Mrs. Bayley have one son, Charles S., who was born on June 12, 1885, at Alexandria, Minnesota.

William P. Bayley is a Democrat in politics and was a member of the city council of Fergus Falls for several years and a delegate to the Kansas City convention, which nominated William J. Bryan for the presidency. In 1900 Mr. Bayley was chairman of the Democratic county central committee of Otter Tail county. He is one of the active and progressive men and citizens of Fergus Falls and is interested in everything which pertains to the development of this great county.

ROBERT HANNAH.

The Co-operative Building Association, while not an institution peculiar to America, has served a splendid purpose in the material development of this great country. It has served an especially valuable purpose in the development of the great state of Minnesota and especially Otter Tail county. Among the men who now live in Otter Tail county and who are prominent in the administration of building associations is Robert Hannah, of Fergus Falls, a native of Scotland, who, aside from his interests in various building associations, is personally engaged in the farm loan and mortgage business.

Robert Hannah was born at Ayrshire, Scotland, in 1860, and is the son of John and Mary (Miller) Hannah, both of whom are deceased. Mr. Hannah's father was a farmer in Scotland. He was reared on the farm and received his education at the Ayr Academy.

In 1882 Robert Hannah immigrated to America. After arriving in this country, he came west to Minneapolis, where he remained for one year.

Subsequently, he became inspector of western farm mortgages for the Globe Investment Company, at Boston. During the period of eight or nine years when he was associated with the Globe Investment Company, Mr. Hannah also had offices in Kansas City, Missouri, and at other places.

On January 2, 1892, Mr. Hannah came to Fergus Falls and engaged in his present business. He not only handles farm mortgages, but he is secretary of the Northwestern Building Association, an incorporation organized in 1904. Moreover, he was secretary of the Otter Tail Building and Loan Association, organized in 1895. These concerns have been instrumental in building up many towns in Otter Tail county, and, in fact, in the surrounding country, because they have furnished a liberal supply of money on easy terms to men who were interested in the development of this county.

Robert Hannah's wife, before her marriage, was Mary Ely, a native of Northfield, Vermont, and to them has been born one daughter, Louise.

Mr. Hannah is a director of the First National Bank, of Fergus Falls.

GEORGE O. WELCH, M.D.

The state of Minnesota takes great pride in the character of and administration of its public institutions. An important feature of the efficient management of the state institutions of Minnesota consists in the long tenure of its administrative officers, who have proved themselves qualified for the positions they fill. Institutional management in many states has been inefficient merely because capable men have been sacrificed for politics. Fortunately, this is not the case in Minnesota. Dr. George O. Welch, the superintendent of the state hospital at Fergus Falls, was appointed to his present position in 1892, nearly a quarter of a century ago. Having ably discharged the duties of this responsible position, he has since continued in office from year to year regardless of the varying fortunes of politics.

Doctor Welch is a man who was well trained not only for the technical aspects of his office, but for the general aspects as well. He is a native of Boston, Massachusetts, the son of Charles W. and Angenora (Hawes) Welch. Doctor Welch received a common-school education in Boston and was graduated from the historic select school, Chauncy Hall, in Boston. He began his career in the office of the Old Colony Railroad Company and remained with the company for five years, after which he entered the Boston University Medical School to prepare himself for the practice of medicine. After being graduated from this institution, he occupied a subordinate position in the state hospital at Westboro, Massachusetts, for five years and then spent one year in Europe in special work pertaining to special features of his profession. In 1892 Doctor Welch was appointed superintendent

of the Minnesota state hospital at Fergus Falls and has held this position continuously ever since. He is a member of the Masonic fraternity, having joined this historic order in South Boston, but, upon coming to Minnesota, became affiliated with Corner Stone Lodge No. 99.

Dr. George O. Welch was married to Phoebe M. Lyon, the daughter of James W. and Harriett (Crandall) Lyon, and to them has been born one son, Geoffrey W.

OTTO M. HAUGAN, M.D.

Among the very prominent physicians of Otter Tail county, Minnesota, and especially of Fergus Falls and vicinity, is Dr. Otto M. Haugan, a native of South Dakota, where he was born on a farm on May 7, 1868.

After having lived in the state of South Dakota until he was fifteen years old, Otto M. Haugan entered the Red Wing Seminary in 1887 and nine years later was graduated from the University of Minnesota with the degree of Bachelor of Arts. In the meantime he was elected superintendent of the schools of Otter Tail county and served in this position from 1895 until 1898. In 1902 he was graduated from the medical department of Northwestern University at Evanston, receiving the degree of Doctor of Medicine.

Since 1902 Doctor Haugan has been engaged in the practice of his profession in Fergus Falls. Here he has built up a large and profitable practice, but he is quite as well known in the public affairs of Otter Tail county as in the medical profession. Doctor Haugan is a member of the American and Minnesota State Medical Associations, and of the Park Region Medical Society.

AXCEL C. BAKER, M.D.

Prominent in the medical profession of Fergus Falls, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, is Dr. Axcel C. Baker, who is a native of Rochester, Minnesota, and the son of Ole and Lena (Olson) Baker.

Doctor Baker's father and mother came to America about 1870 and located near Rochester, Minnesota, where the father operated a hardware store for several years. He is now living retired.

Axcel C. Baker obtained his early education at Rochester, Minnesota. Afterward, he attended the University of Minnesota and was graduated from the academic department in 1897. He made a splendid record at the University of Minnesota and one of which he has every reason to be very proud. After finishing the academic work at the University of Minnesota, where he received the degree of Bachelor of Arts, Dr. Baker attended

Northwestern University Medical School, at Chicago, and was graduated from that institution in 1901, receiving the degree of Doctor of Medicine.

After spending two years in the Wesley hospital, at Chicago, as an intern, he came to Fergus Falls in 1903 and here engaged in the practice of medicine. During the past twelve years his practice has steadily increased and he now enjoys a large and prosperous patronage.

By Doctor Baker's marriage to Catherine Hudson, the daughter of Thomas C. and Eliza Hudson, there have been born four children, Norman H., Katheryn, Charles E. and Mary.

Doctor Baker is prominent in the Masonic circles of Fergus Falls, being a member of Corner Stone Lodge No. 99. He is also a member of the Park Region Medical Society, the Minnesota State Medical Association and the American Medical Association.

FRANK N. WHITTAKER, D.D.S.

One of the best-known citizens of Fergus Falls, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, and the first college-trained dentist to locate in Fergus Falls, is Dr. Frank N. Whittaker, a native of Minneapolis, where he was born on May 16, 1869. Doctor Whittaker's father, who is still living at Llanerch, a suburb of Philadelphia, was one of two children born to his parents. The other was Charles Whittaker, a veteran of the Civil War, who died in Minneapolis. Doctor Whittaker's mother, who before her marriage was Helen Noble, and who was his father's second wife, came from a distinguished pioneer family of Minneapolis, her parents having settled on the present site of the Hennepin county court house. Mrs. Helen (Noble) Whittaker was one of three children born to her parents. She had two brothers, James and John H., the latter of whom was a thirty-third-degree Mason, who died in the city of Minneapolis. Many years ago Doctor Whittaker's father removed from the state of Minnesota to Delaware county, Pennsylvania. After living in Minneapolis for a time he had removed to Minnetonka Lake, near Minneapolis, where for a time he owned a farm. Later he owned a small farm in Virginia, where he lived for a few years and then removed to Delaware county, Pennsylvania, settling at Llanerch, a suburb of Philadelphia, where he now lives retired with his son Robert, a child by his third marriage. Doctor Whittaker's mother died in 1872 and his father later was married to a Miss Jennings, who is now deceased.

Born and reared in Minneapolis, Minnesota, Frank N. Whittaker attended the public schools of Minneapolis and later spent two years in the Minneapolis high school. After the high school course he entered the department of dentistry at the University of Minnesota and was graduated

in the class of 1893. After his graduation Doctor Whittaker removed to Fergus Falls and for eight months was employed in the dental office of Dr. R. H. Phalon. After working for Doctor Phalon for eight months Doctor Whittaker bought his office and began the practice of his profession on his own responsibility on February 1, 1894. Altogether he has practiced dentistry in Otter Tail county, Minnesota, for a little more than twenty years and during this period has given his time exclusively to his profession, having built up a large patronage in this county. He is known here not only as a skilful dentist, but as one of the leading citizens of Otter Tail county.

In 1898 Doctor Whittaker was married to Mrs. Jessie Crippen, a native of Wisconsin and a daughter of Col. O. McFarland, who immigrated to Otter Tail county in 1880 and purchased a farm on the shore of Ten Mile lake, where he lived until his death. Doctor and Mrs. Whittaker have no children.

The Whittakers are members of the Episcopal church of Fergus Falls and Doctor Whittaker is a vestryman in the church. He is a Republican in politics, but has never aspired to office. All in all, it may be said that Dr. Frank N. Whittaker is one of those professional men and citizens whom many communities delight to honor. He has worthily discharged his duties as a professional man and a citizen. Not only is he well known throughout Otter Tail county and especially Fergus Falls and vicinity, but is popular wherever known.

JAMES H. BELL.

The firm of Maire & Bell is well known in the business and commercial life of Fergus Falls and is one of the leading hardware companies in this section of the state. The secretary of the firm is James H. Bell, who is a native of New York state.

James H. Bell was born in the town of Dexter, Jefferson county, New York, January 10, 1854, and is the son of William and Betsy (Seeber) Bell. Mr. Bell's father and mother were born in New York state. His grandfather and his grandmother were natives of Ireland.

James H. Bell was reared on the home farm and obtained his education in his native town. After growing to manhood he taught school in New York state, but in February, 1881, came west to Fergus Falls and purchased land in Buse township, where he carried on farming until 1894, when he engaged in the hardware business in Fergus Falls in partnership with Mr. Maire.

By Mr. Bell's marriage to Clara J. Wiley, the daughter of Jefferson Wiley, there have been born two children, William J. and Clara L. Mrs. Bell died on October 10, 1912. Of their two children, William J. was

educated in the public schools of Fergus Falls. He attended the Princeton Theological Seminary, at Princeton, New Jersey, and is now a missionary of the Presbyterian church and is stationed at Virginia, Minnesota. Reverend Bell was married to Helen Hunt, of St. Paul, Minnesota. Clara L. Bell resides at home with her father.

JOHN P. HAAVE.

One of the oldest merchants in point of continuous business activity in the history of Fergus Falls, Minnesota, is John P. Haave, who was born twenty-five miles east of Trondhjem, Norway, January 14, 1839, the son of Peter and Solo (Floren) Haave, the former of whom was a farmer in Norway. Both parents died in Norway.

In 1867 John P. Haave and wife emigrated to America, and after landing on the Atlantic seaboard the family came west, locating in Wanamingo township, Goodhue county, Minnesota, where John P. Haave farmed for a year. During the remaining three years in which he lived in Goodhue county, he was occupied with various kinds of work. In 1871 he removed to Fergus Falls, Minnesota, where he worked during the summer months in a saw-mill, and in the winter months in a blacksmith shop. This period of his life covered altogether eight years.

In 1884, in company with Olive Haave, Mr. Haave purchased the grocery store of John Halbeerg, and this partnership arrangement continued for eight or nine months, when John P. Haave stated to his partner that there was not enough in the business for both of them, that he would withdraw his capital and pay for what groceries his family had used in addition and ask nothing for his services during the period of eight or nine months. Olive Haave declined to agree to this arrangement, but after a few days' deliberation he also offered to withdraw from the concern, which he did. This was in 1884, and since that period John P. Haave has continued in business in Fergus Falls. His first store was located on the present site of the office of the *Urgblad*. In 1888 Mr. Haave moved to his present location under the Riverside flats.

Not only has John P. Haave been successful in business, but he has also been successful in the political life of the county. He served as county commissioner of Otter Tail county from 1896 to 1900, and has held various municipal and local offices. For many years Mr. Haave has been a trustee of the Park Region Lutheran College, and is a devoted and earnest member of the Lutheran church, to the support of which he is a liberal contributor.

Since coming to Fergus Falls, Minnesota, Mr. Haave has witnessed

many important changes, not only in the material development of this city and county, but in the personnel of its citizens. Today he ranks as a good man and a good citizen, and is well and favorably known throughout Otter Tail county.

HENRY A. WINTHER.

One of the prosperous commercial concerns of Fergus Falls, Minnesota, is the John A. A. Winther & Son, dealers in lumber and building material, of which Henry A. Winther is the junior partner.

Henry A. Winther, a native of Cold Spring, Stearns county, Minnesota, was born on January 12, 1875. He is the son of John A. A. and Eline (Hanson) Winther, the former of whom was born on June 11, 1836, in Denmark, and who in 1861, when twenty-five years old, immigrated to America, landing in New York city. Subsequently he came west to Minneapolis, where he followed the cooper's trade for a time. He then removed to Nashville, Tennessee, during the War of the Rebellion and was there obliged to employ Southern sympathizers whether he desired or not. After the war he returned to Denmark on account of the death of his father and remained in his native land for two years. Upon his return to America he settled at Cold Spring, Stearns county, Minnesota, where he took charge of the lumber business owned by Waite, Clarke & McClure. After living at Cold Spring for five years, in March, 1880, Mr. Winther came to Fergus Falls, Minnesota, and the following year, in company with B. A. Clarke, engaged in the lumber business. Subsequently, however, he sold out to Mr. Clarke.

In 1883 John A. A. Winther opened a lumber yard at Elizabeth, Otter Tail county, Minnesota. This yard is still in operation. In 1890 he purchased the lumber yard of Edward McCullough, in Fergus Falls, and this yard is also still in operation and is managed by Henry A. Winther, the junior partner, who became associated in the business in 1899.

Mr. and Mrs. John A. A. Winther were the parents of six children, namely: Henry A., the subject of this sketch; Mary K., who is now Mrs. George W. Savage and who resides in Iowa; August A., who married Annie Hanert; Bates C., who is engaged with his brother, August A., in the fruit growing business at Lindsay, California; Arnold S., who is in the mining business in Utah; and William, an electrician of Fresno, California.

Henry A. Winther was married in 1914 to Eva R. Huxmann, of Minneapolis. Mr. and Mrs. Winther have one child, Henry A., Jr., born on September 4, 1915. Mr. Winther's parents make their home in Los Angeles, California, on account of the severity of the Minnesota climate. The California climate agrees with them much better at their time of life.

JOHN H. GRASS.

As president of the Grass Clothing Company, of Fergus Falls, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, John H. Grass is a conspicuous figure in the business life of Fergus Falls and Otter Tail county. He is the founder of the business which now bears his name and with which for more than thirty-five years he has been connected.

John H. Grass, a native of Walworth county, Wisconsin, where he was born on March 1, 1850, is the son of Anthony and Catherine (Noblet) Grass, both of whom were natives of Alsace, then a province of France. Anthony Grass's parents were Joseph and Barbara Grass, who came to America when Anthony was twelve years old. They located in Detroit, Michigan, where the father engaged in manufacturing boots and shoes. Later, however, he sold out the boot and shoe business and engaged in farming in the state of Michigan. He remained on the farm until 1844, when the family removed to Wisconsin, settling at Spring Prairie in Walworth county, where he engaged in farming the remainder of his life. Joseph Grass, the paternal grandfather of John H., was one of the progressive men of his time as well as a most skilful and successful farmer. Both he and his wife lived to advanced ages. Joseph Grass died at the age of eighty-six and his wife at the age of eight-one years. They had four children, of whom Mr. Grass's father, Anthony, was the first born. The other children were Barbara, Abbie and Rosabelle.

Anthony Grass was reared on the home farm in Wisconsin, where he remained until 1860, when he removed to Racine county, Wisconsin, purchasing two hundred acres of land. By his marriage to Catherine Noblet, there were born nine children, of whom John H. was the fourth. Nichols, the first born, is deceased. The others were Abbie, Catherine, Annie, Joseph, Frank, Julia and Edward.

John H. Grass was educated in the public schools of the state of Wisconsin and at Rochester Academy. He also attended the Burlington high school, but quit school when eighteen years old to engage in the mercantile business at Burlington, Wisconsin, where he worked as a clerk for four years. Afterward he went to Elkhorn, Wisconsin, and managed a store owned by his former employer, Joseph Crane. There he remained for three years, when, in company with B. C. Drake, he purchased a stock of goods and operated a store in partnership with Mr. Drake for a year and one half. He then sold out to his partner.

In 1870 Mr. Grass came to Fergus Falls, Minnesota, and commenced business with Osmer C. Chase. Subsequently Mr. Chase sold out his interest in the mercantile business to a Mr. Grant and in 1881 the firm name was changed to Grass, Morrison & Grant. This partnership arrangement

continued until 1890, when Mr. Grass and partners split up the store. One took the groceries, one took the dry goods and Mr. Grass took the clothing department. He conducted the business alone until February 15, 1915, when it was incorporated under the name of the Grass Clothing Company. The incorporators were J. H. Grass, Sr., and J. H. Grass, Jr.

In 1876, some three years before coming to Minnesota, John H. Grass was married to Adella Silvernail, of Waukesha county, Wisconsin. Mrs. Grass is the daughter of Peter Silvernail and has borne her husband two sons, Charles F. and John H., Jr. The former married Christianna Larson and they have two children, Harriett and Alice. They reside in the state of Montana. John H. Grass, Jr., is associated with his father in the Grass Clothing Company.

In addition to the mercantile business which bears his name, John H. Grass is also a most successful farmer. He owns two splendid farms in Orwell township, to which he gives considerable attention. He is especially interested in breeding Guernsey cattle and Percheron horses.

Mr. Grass is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks.

DAVID M. BROWN.

One of the thriving industries of Fergus Falls, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, is the Fergus Casket Works, of which David M. Brown has been secretary and executive officer since its organization in 1897. Not only has he been prominent in the industrial life of Otter Tail county, but he has likewise been prominent in the civic and political life, having served at one time as mayor of Fergus Falls and as a member of the Fergus Falls council.

David M. Brown is a native of Volney, Oswego county, New York, where he was born on October 6, 1857. He is the son of David L. and Harriet (Harris) Brown, the former of whom during his active career was a successful farmer. He is now living retired in New York state. Mr. Brown's mother passed away in the Empire state in 1900. There were six children in the family, four of whom are still living.

David M. Brown received his early education in Fulton, Oswego county, New York, and at Mexico Academy. While he was still a lad in his teens and while his education was still incomplete, he took up salesmanship and worked during the evenings and summers and on Saturdays selling fruit trees for a large nursery. Later he taught school during the winter months for several terms.

In 1882 Mr. Brown came to Fergus Falls and with Leonard Ames, of Oswego, New York, and Geo. G. French, of Mexico, New York, together

with Charles J. Wright, of Fergus Falls (the firm name being Ames, French & Company), three thousand acres of land were acquired, of which fifteen hundred acres was farm land. The farm land was located at French, Carlisle township, and the timber land in the township of Dora, Otter Tail county. This company was organized for the specific purpose of cultivating the land for profit and eventually selling it. The business continued until 1889, when Mr. Brown took up life insurance work, having become at that time assistant manager of the Mutual Life Insurance Company, of New York state. After holding this position until 1897 Mr. Brown assisted in the organization of the Fergus Casket Works, and became the secretary and manager of the concern, positions which he still holds. He is one of the chief officers of this concern and has had much to do with its prosperity and growth.

On December 12, 1883, David M. Brown was married to Henrietta Bisnett, a native of Fulton, New York. They have one son, David L., who is the assistant manager of the Fergus Casket Works.

Mr. Brown is a member of Corner Stone Lodge No. 99, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons. Also he is the exalted ruler of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, and a member of the Ancient Order of United Workmen and the Modern Woodmen of America.

WALTER B. WINDSOR.

One of the largest industries in Otter Tail county is the manufacture of flour and one of the largest manufacturers of Otter Tail county is Walter B. Windsor, the secretary of the Fergus Flour Mills Company, which makes a specialty of manufacturing flour from the celebrated "Park Region" wheat. The Fergus Flour Mills Company is a consolidation of the Otter Tail mill and the Fergus flour-mill.

Walter B. Windsor is a native of Wheatcheif, New Jersey, where he was born on November 21, 1859. He is the son of William H. and Sarah (Battin) Windsor, the former of whom was a well-known business man, of New York city, having been engaged there for many years in the fire insurance business. During all of this time, William H. Windsor lived in Elizabeth, New Jersey. In his later years, he moved to the western part of New York state, where he and his wife lived until their deaths.

Walter B. Windsor received his early education at Canaseraga, Allegany county, New York. Practically all of his education was received in private schools. After he had grown to manhood, he learned the druggist's trade in Hornellsville, New York, but in 1883 immigrated to the Dakotas and after taking up some land made his headquarters at Aberdeen.

South Dakota, and engaged in the fire insurance business on an extensive scale.

In August, 1899, Mr. Windsor came to Fergus Falls and in partnership with David A. Tennant purchased the Otter Tail flour-mill, which was operated for one year. In 1900 he purchased the Fergus flour-mill and consolidated the two mills into the Fergus Flour Mills Company. In 1904 they purchased a mill in Fargo, North Dakota, and in 1912 they purchased the Globe flour-mill in Perham, Otter Tail county. In addition to their consolidated mill, they, therefore, own two additional mills. Comparatively, these three mills have a large capacity and the firm enjoys a large local trade in Otter Tail county and does a large business in other parts of the country. From the very beginning, the business has been a prosperous one and its success has been due not only to the wide knowledge which Mr. Windsor has of the milling business, but to his relations with his patrons, which have always been of a most cordial character. Although a prominent citizen of Otter Tail county, Mr. Windsor is a man of most modest and unassuming parts.

In October, 1891, Walter B. Windsor was married, in Faribault, Minnesota, to Sarah Tennant, a native of St. Lawrence county, New York. Mr. and Mrs. Windsor have two children, Robert and Harold, who live at home with their parents.

HORACE PICKIT.

The only merchant now living in Fergus Falls, Minnesota, who was in business in this city as long ago as 1873, is Horace Pickit, who was born in Edwards, St. Lawrence county, New York, in 1842, and who is the son of J. B. and Sarah (Woodcock) Pickit.

The late J. B. Pickit operated a general store in Edwards for a number of years and was postmaster for thirty-five years. He was also interested in a large ax and wagon manufacturing company and held many local offices. In fact, he was the leading citizen of the town. In 1880 he and his wife came west to Fergus Falls and remained for a time, when they removed to Motley, Morrison county, where he and his wife lived until their deaths.

Horace Pickit received his early education in the district schools and at the academy at Gouverneur and Potsdam, New York, after which he worked in his father's store. When he was twenty-one years old he engaged in business for himself in Edwards until 1872, when he made a pleasure trip to California. On August 9, 1873, Mr. Pickit came to Fergus Falls. His brother was already here in business and they entered into

partnership under the firm name of Pickit Brothers, which continued for five years, when they dissolved. Horace Pickit then operated the business alone.

A few years later Horace Pickit built a large brick building on the southeast corner of Mill street and Lincoln avenue, and in this building operated a furnishing goods store on the Mill street side. A Mr. Moore operated a dry-goods store facing on Lincoln avenue.

In 1890 Mr. Pickit became the postmaster of Fergus Falls under the administration of President Cleveland and at the next door on Mill street, north, conducted a tailor shop and later a furnishing goods store. Subsequently, however, he sold out and put in a line of cigars, taking at the same time the agency for the Northern Express Company, which agency Mr. Pickit still has.

Many years ago Mr. Pickit was married to Celinda E. Peck, by whom two children have been born, both of whom died in infancy. Mr. Pickit is an affable gentleman and is highly respected by the citizens of this city.

JOHN W. PETERSON.

Among the many residents of Fergus Falls, Minnesota, who are natives of Sweden and who have been successful in their adopted country, is John W. Peterson, the present superintendent of the electric light plant at Fergus Falls.

John W. Peterson was born in the southern part of Sweden on July 31, 1858, and is the son of Peter and Hannah (Nelson) Peterson. In 1875 the family came to America and, after moving to Chippewa county, Minnesota, settled near what is now the village of Maynard. There the father homesteaded a tract of land which he operated and where he lived until his death.

John W. Peterson received his early schooling in his native land and in America. He attended the public schools of Granite Falls, Minnesota, and of Litchfield, in Meeker county. After finishing his education he was first employed in a store in Litchfield for one year and then went to Minneapolis, where he was able to obtain a position with the Swan & Bush Electric Company. In the meantime Mr. Peterson attended night school, where he studied electricity, in order to better equip himself for his business. After six months he was employed by the St. Paul, Minnesota, Gas Light Company, and was associated with that company for four years. Mr. Peterson then operated the power house for eighteen months, which is located in Eau Claire, Wisconsin. He then came to Little Falls, where he was employed by the Little Falls Power and Light Company for five years.

In 1895 Mr. Peterson came to Fergus Falls as superintendent of the

electric light plant of this city, a position which he has creditably filled during a period of many years.

By Mr. Peterson's marriage to Ellen Benson there has been born one daughter, Florence E., who lives at home with her parents; a son, William Edwin, died at the age of sixteen months.

Mr. Peterson is a member of the Minnesota Electrical Association and is prominent in the civic life of his home town. He is well known in Fergus Falls and is highly respected by all of the people with whom he has come in contact.

WATSON T. BELL.

Among the active business men of Fergus Falls, Minnesota, who have been connected with the business life of the city for many years and who, as the proprietor of a popular grocery, enjoys a large and lucrative patronage, is Watson T. Bell. Mr. Bell deserves to be considered as one of the pioneers of Fergus Falls and Otter Tail county. He is prominent in the fraternal circles of the city and is otherwise well known in this section of the state.

Watson T. Bell was born on August 14, 1853, at Sugar Creek, in Walworth county, Wisconsin. He is the son of William and Adeline (Fairchild) Bell, the former of whom came to Wisconsin from Cattaraugus county, New York. William Bell was a carpenter by trade. He emigrated to Walworth county, Wisconsin, at an early date and there followed his trade, and it was there that Watson T. Bell grew to manhood.

Having learned the printer's trade, Mr. Bell finally moved to Milwaukee, Wisconsin, where, for some time, he worked at his trade. Still later he moved to Chicago, Illinois, where he was employed as a type setter on the *Chicago Tribune* until 1882. At that time Mr. Bell moved to Fergus Falls, Minnesota. Realizing that there was an opportunity for a large grocery, he, in partnership with Oscar Brown, opened a retail grocery in the Wright block on Bismark avenue, east, and was in that location for eight or nine years, when they moved to Lincoln avenue, west, near the present site of the Golden Rule building, where, in addition to groceries, they carried a large line of glass and crockery.

In 1902 the partnership between Mr. Bell and Mr. Brown was dissolved, Mr. Bell moving at that time to his present location, 114 Lincoln avenue, west. He now deals exclusively in groceries and has a large trade, which has come to him not only because he fully understands the needs of his customers, but because of his honorable and upright dealings with them.

Mr. Bell's wife, before her marriage, was Margaret Gorman, who has borne him one son, Dr. George E., now a well-known and successful dentist of Fergus Falls. Dr. George E. Bell married Edith Mortensen, the

daughter of Nels J. Mortensen, a retired druggist of Fergus Falls. Dr. and Mrs. George E. Bell have one daughter, Catherine.

Watson T. Bell is a member of Corner Stone Lodge No. 99, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, the Knights of Pythias, the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks and the Modern Woodmen of America.

HON. ELMER ELLSWORTH ADAMS.

As the editor of Otter Tail county's leading newspaper for many years, and as a banker and business man, Elmer Ellsworth Adams is one of the best-known citizens of Otter Tail county. His life and career are intimately identified with almost every phase of the development of this great county.

Elmer Ellsworth Adams, journalist and business man, is a native of Waterbury, Vermont, where he was born on December 31, 1861, a son of Daniel K. and Ann (Hale) Adams, both of whom also were natives of the state of Vermont. Daniel K. Adams, who originally was an iron manufacturer, emigrated to Minneapolis in 1870, and engaged in contract building. His death occurred in St. Paul in 1912, he and his wife having reared a family of four children, Dayton, Elmer E., Wilbur and Alice.

Elmer E. Adams was educated in the public schools of Morrisville, Vermont, and at the University of Minnesota, being graduated from the latter institution with the class of 1884, and on the 17th of February, 1884, arrived at Fergus Falls, this county, as the editor of the *Fergus Falls Daily Telegram*. In March, 1885, the *Telegram* was consolidated with the *Fergus Falls Journal*, and Mr. Adams became editor of the consolidated newspaper, continuing in that capacity until 1912, when he was succeeded by W. L. Robertson.

In addition to the presidency of the Fergus Falls Journal Company, a position which Mr. Adams now holds, he is also president of the First National Bank, president of the Northwestern Building Association, and of the Otter Tail Loan Association, and secretary of the Red River Milling Company.

In 1890 Elmer E. Adams was supervisor of the federal census for the fifth Minnesota district, and in 1900 he was supervisor of the census for the seventh Minnesota district. For many years he was a member of the board of regents of the University of Minnesota. He also has served as a member of the state Legislature for four terms and is a member of the lower house of the Minnesota Legislature at the present time. While a student at the University of Minnesota he was a member of the Chi Psi fraternity.

In 1890, Elmer Ellsworth Adams was married to Fanny Cowles, at Rochester, Minnesota, and to this union have been born three children,



ELMER ELESWORTH ADAMS.

Marjorie, Dorothy Q. and Samuel P., all of whom are living at home with their parents.

Mr. Adams is prominent as a member of the Chippewa Club, of Fergus Falls. He is a gentleman of wide information as a banker and a forceful newspaper editor and writer, being widely recognized as one of the most forceful editorial writers in Minnesota. His large success in life has come as a natural consequence of his natural force of character and grace of personality and he deserves to rank as one of the foremost citizens of Otter Tail county, it being reasonably certain that history will accord to him a conspicuous place in the annals of this section of the state.

RICHARD J. ANGUS.

Richard J. Angus, a successful business man of Fergus Falls, Minnesota, who has been engaged in the real-estate, loan and insurance business in this city since 1891, is a well-rounded man and citizen. He is popular among the people of Otter Tail county. Rarely does anything occur in Fergus Falls in which he does not take a leading part.

Richard J. Angus, who is a native of Scotland, was born at Bathgate on February 16, 1863. His father, the late Alexander Angus, was a merchant in the old country. The family came to America in 1880, and after settling in Minnesota engaged in farming.

Educated at the city of Bathgate, Mr. Angus later entered the University of Edinburgh, where for some years he was a student. When Mr. Angus was nineteen years old, he engaged in the real estate business with Miller & McMasters, of Fergus Falls, and was employed by this firm for a period of six years. It was here that he laid the foundation of the success which was to crown the efforts of his later years. In 1888 Mr. Angus went to Neligh, Nebraska, where he became assistant manager of the Nebraska office of the Globe Investment Company, of Boston, Massachusetts. The next year, 1889, Mr. Angus was transferred to the Kansas City office as cashier of the combined Nebraska and Kansas offices. Two years later, in 1891, he returned to Fergus Falls and, having already obtained a good start in life, bought out the real-estate business of F. W. Burnham, who had succeeded to the business of Miller & McMasters. This business has been successfully carried on for a period of nearly a quarter of a century, and it has given Mr. Angus an opportunity to be of real service in the agricultural and commercial life of Otter Tail county. Among his various interests he owns farms in this county and on the White Earth reservation, and city property, among which is a third interest in the Manhattan building, where his office is located.

Mr. Angus has served several terms as alderman of the fourth ward on the city council in Fergus Falls. The good work of Richard J. Angus does not appear in a brief statement of facts concerning his life's career. His ways of doing good are so varied and extend to so many unexpected quarters that they cannot well be set forth in this place. He is, however, one of the "live wires" of Fergus Falls and prominent in many phases of its life. Mr. Angus is a member of several fraternal and secret orders, including, among others, the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks. He is also treasurer of the Federated church. No interest is beneath his notice and no interest exists in this thriving city either too large or too small to gain a part of his attention. He is fond of the people of Fergus Falls and the people are fond of him and cherish the work he has done and is doing.

ADIN NELSON.

Adin Nelson, a well-known citizen of Fergus Falls, Minnesota, and the principal butter-maker for the Fergus Co-operative Creamery Association, is a native of East Union, Carver county, Minnesota, where he was born on July 20, 1876. He is the son of Nels and Inga (Anderson) Nelson, who had a family of nine children. The following children are still living: Jonah M., a resident of Minneapolis; Nels G., a resident of Carver village; Mrs. Christine Swanson, who lives in Carver; Mrs. Lena Scott, of Jordan, Scott county, Minnesota; Leonard, who lives at Bemidji; and Emma, who married Henry Botting, and lives at Bemidji.

Mr. Nelson's father came to America in 1869 and his mother three years later. They settled in East Union, Carver county, Minnesota, where Nels operated a flour-mill and where he was the head miller for five years. He then purchased a farm and was engaged in farming the remainder of his life.

Adin Nelson was reared on the farm and received his education in East Union, Carver county, Minnesota. After completing his education he managed his father's farm for three years after his father's death, and then found employment in the creamery for a couple of years. After he had obtained a general knowledge of making butter, he attended a dairy-farm school and, after completing his studies there, he returned to East Union and became butter-maker for the East Union creamery. Altogether, Mr. Nelson was employed by the East Union creamery for seven years.

In 1907 Adin Nelson came to Fergus Falls, Minnesota, and has since operated the Co-operative creamery at this place. He is a member of the Butter-Maker's Association, both state and national, and Vasa Orden of Fergus Falls.

By his marriage to Anna L. Arneson, a native of East Union, Carver



HERBERT E. WEBSTER.

county. Adin Nelson has four children, Margaret, Doris, Wilma and Herma. The Nelson family are all members of the Swedish Lutheran church. They are regular attendants at church services and contribute liberally to the support of the church in every way.

HERBERT E. WEBBER.

Herbert E. Webber, the well-known manager of the E. J. Webber Company, of Fergus Falls, Minnesota, whose family history is recounted in the sketch of his deceased father, was born on April 21, 1884. It may be said in this connection, however, that his father, who passed away in 1905, was one of the most progressive citizens in the history of Fergus Falls.

Herbert E. Webber obtained his elementary education in the public schools of Fergus Falls, and after finishing the high school course he attended Northwestern University, at Chicago, and was a student there in the law department. Mr. Webber expected to continue his course in law until graduation, but his father's untimely death, in 1905, changed his plans and he returned home to take up his father's work.

Mr. Webber has charge of all of his father's business and is capably and successfully installed as its manager. He is president of the Fergus Casket Works, a position which his father held at the time of his death, and has many other business responsibilities.

Herbert E. Webber was married on February 3, 1915, to Rose Frankoviz, a native of Fergus Falls. Mr. and Mrs. Webber are popular in the social life of Fergus Falls and entertain frequently at their hospitable and comfortable home in this city. Mr. Webber is a member of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks.

CHRISTIAN O. UTNE.

Among the residents of Fergus Falls, Minnesota, who have been successful in its business and commercial life, is Christian O. Utne, the present secretary of the Fergus Falls Woolen Mills Company, who is a native of Norway.

Christian O. Utne was born on March 23, 1882, and is the son of Oliver C. and Ellen Torine (Ryan) Utne. The Utne family, consisting of the father and mother and five children, came to America in 1886. After arriving on the Atlantic seaboard, they came West to Dalton, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, where the father purchased a farm and on which was standing a small frame house. Later on he built a larger house. There were ten children in the Utne family: Mattie, Amanda, Emma, who is deceased; Christian, who married Edith Sunju, a native of Ashby and the

daughter of Andrew and Mary Sunju, and has two children, Ellen Marie and Dorothy Isabel; Sarah; Andrew O. is a professor in the Park Region College; Theodore, who is principal of the high school at Norwood; John, who lives on the old farm; Emma, who is a teacher by profession; and Dora, who lives at home.

Christian O. Utne received his early education in Dane Prairie. Later he attended the Northwestern College at Fergus Falls and later Red Wing Seminary and Moorehead State Normal School. After completing his studies, he taught school in different places for seven years.

In 1910 Mr. Utne became associated with the management of the Fergus Falls Woolen Mill Company, which position he now holds. He is a successful business man and a valuable citizen, one who takes a commendable interest in public enterprises and worthy public movements.

MARTIN T. NELSON.

Of the well-known business firms in Fergus Falls, Minnesota, there may be mentioned the firm of Nelson & Thoreson, who operate two distinct lines of business, the Fergus Fuel Company, which deals in coal, lime, plaster and cement, and the Marble and Granite Works.

Martin T. Nelson, the senior member of the firm of Nelson & Thoreson, was born on November 15, 1873, and is the son of Tollef and Marit (Larson) Nelson, the former of whom was born in 1837 and who, in 1856, with his brother, sailed for America. Tollef was then but nineteen years old. With his brother, he landed at Quebec, Canada, and not having enough money to reach their destination they borrowed some and by boat finally reached the state of Michigan, after which they worked their way several hundred miles, finally reaching Big Canoe, Iowa, where their uncle lived. They remained with him for a time and then moved to Waseca county, Minnesota, where they worked a farm on the shares for a time. Afterward they came to Freeborn county and also worked at farming on the shares. Finally, they purchased a yoke of oxen and drove to Tumuli township, in Otter Tail county, taking up a homestead near the village of Dalton. There Tollef Nelson farmed until his death.

Tollef and Marit (Larson) Nelson were the parents of twelve children, four of whom died in infancy: Carrie, who is now Mrs. T. O. Udbye, of Fergus Falls; Nels T., who is a lawyer and editor; Inger, who married P. C. Svensrud, and lives on a part of the old homestead; Lars, who lives on the homestead in Tumuli township; Martin T., who is the subject of this sketch; Anton, who is a resident of Canada; Thore T., who is a barber in Fergus Falls; and Eline, who married Emil Brusven.

Martin T. Nelson was reared on the home farm, and after completing

his education taught school for two years in Norman county and two years in Otter Tail county. Afterward he engaged in the coal, lime, plaster and cement business and, in 1908, went into the marble and granite business. The title of the firm was originally Partridge & Nelson. This partnership arrangement continued for one year, and afterward Mr. Nelson was alone until 1912, when he took his present partner into the business.

By his marriage to Gena Molden, the daughter of Olie Molden, Martin T. Nelson has one son, Thomas O., who was born on September 27, 1907.

The firm of Nelson & Thoreson has been unusually successful in business and has succeeded in building up a large trade and a valuable patronage in this community. Much of this success is due to the splendid ability and genial personality of the senior member of the firm, Martin T. Nelson.

LOWELL I. LANGNESS.

Lowell I. Langness, a well-known merchant of Otter Tail county, Minnesota, who has been engaged in business at Clitherall longer than any other man in the history of the town, was born at Rodness, Smaalennes, Amt. Norway, August 7, 1864, and is the son of Iver A. and Amelia (Anderson) Langness. Mr. Langness' father was born in 1820 and his mother in 1826. They were married in Norway, and after their marriage Iver A. Langness came to America and located in Goodhue county, Minnesota, in 1868. Two years later the family came to America, and in 1874 they settled in Leaf Mountain township, Otter Tail county. Here the father took a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres. He cleared the land and improved it in many ways and lived on this farm until his death, in 1901. His wife died in 1905. They were members of the Norwegian Lutheran church and were among the organizers of the Zoar congregation. They were active in religious work until the time of their deaths. They were the parents of six children, of whom August and Carl are deceased. The living children are: Julius, Lowell I., Alava and Anna.

Lowell I. Langness was educated in Leaf Mountain township and in Nidaros township. He was reared on a farm and lived on the farm until he was twenty-two years old, when he engaged in threshing in this county. After having been engaged in the threshing business for three years Mr. Langness attended the St. Cloud Normal School and the Curtis Business College at Minneapolis. He came to Clitherall in the fall of 1891 and engaged in the grain business as a buyer for the Farmers Elevator Company. Later he built an elevator, but sold out about 1901 and moved to North Dakota, where he took a claim of one hundred and sixty acres. After proving up on the claim he returned to Clitherall, and in the fall of 1905 engaged in the general mercantile business. Mr. Langness owns his own

building. He has built up a prosperous business and enjoys a large patronage from the farmers of this community.

On October 28, 1896, Lowell T. Langness was married to Minnie Nyberg, of Fergus Falls, Minnesota. She was born in Tintah, Wilkin county, Minnesota, in 1875, and is the daughter of Charles and Caroline Nyberg, the former of whom lives in Fergus Falls, the latter being deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Lowell I. Langness have no children.

Mr. Langness is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America at Clitherall. He has been active in the Farmers Alliance and was a delegate to the national convention of Modern Woodmen of America, at Toledo, Ohio. Mr. Langness is independent in politics, but this does not mean that he takes no part in politics. On the contrary, he has always been rather active. Mr. Langness has served as clerk of the village and has also served on the council. He was township clerk for a number of years. Mr. and Mrs. Langness are members of the Presbyterian church and take an active interest in religious affairs.

A brother of Lowell I. Langness, Julius I. Langness, who resides in Nidaros township, was born in Norway, November 1, 1858. He was educated in Norway and in 1870 came to Goodhue county, Minnesota. Four years later he settled in Otter Tail county, was reared on a farm and educated principally in the schools of this county. He is a farmer by occupation and in 1885 purchased seventy acres of land, to which he has since added until he now owns one hundred and sixty acres in section 33. He also has eighty acres in section 4, of Leaf Mountain township.

Julius I. Langness was married in 1885 to Lelah Doty, who was born in 1864 in Minnesota, and who is the daughter of Gideon and Lucinda Doty. They now live at Spicer, Minnesota. Eleven children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Julius I. Langness, as follow: Merrill, Minnie, George, Cleveland, Jennie, Alice, Vernon, Maud, Lawrence, Lloyd and Raymond.

Julius I. Langness is a general farmer and stockman. He has never aspired to office.

OLE J. FOSSEN.

The proprietor of the popular Roller Feed Mills on South Mill street, of Fergus Falls, Minnesota, Ole J. Fossen, was born at Thronhjelm, Norway, and is the son of Jens O. and Christena Fossen, who came to America in 1865. After landing on the Atlantic seaboard, the family came west to Minnesota and settled in Goodhue county, where they rented a farm and remained until 1870, a period of five years. In 1870 the Fossen family removed to Otter Tail county and settled in Dane Prairie township, where

they homesteaded a tract of land. This farm was located in section 6. There the family erected a house and continued to live until about 1900, when Mr. and Mrs. Jens O. Fossen removed to Fergus Falls. After removing to this city, Jens O. Fossen retired from active life.

Ole J. Fossen received his early education in the public schools of Goodhue county and in Dane Prairie township of Otter Tail county. He attended the old school known as district No. 28. In 1884 Mr. Fossen left the home farm and came into the city, working for the Fergus Flour Mill Company for ten years. In 1894 he purchased an interest in the Beardsley & Langley mill, and the firm became known as Beardsley & Fossen. It was operated under this name for a period of five years, when Mr. Fossen purchased Mr. Beardsley's interest in the mill. Under the management of Mr. Fossen the mill has been very successful and has done a large business in the grinding of feed and the sale of flour and feed.

By his marriage to Olive Olson, Mr. and Mrs. Fossen have had three children, namely: George is a civil engineer and resides at St. Paul, Minnesota; Theodore is a bookkeeper employed by the First National Bank, of Fergus Falls; Henry is a graduate of the Fergus Falls high school. Mrs. Fossen is a native of Norway. Aside from his purely private business interests, Mr. Fossen is prominent in the fraternal circles of the city. He is a member of the Sons of Norway and of the Ancient Order of United Workmen.

OLAF J. SCHEI.

Prosperous as a merchant in the commercial life of Fergus Falls, Minnesota, Olaf J. Schei, who is engaged in the retail sale of clothing and furnishing goods, is a native of Kenyon township, Goodhue county, Minnesota, where he was born in 1868.

Mr. Schei is the son of Johanes P. and Lena (Rosvold) Schei, the former of whom was born in Yter Pen, and the latter born in Verdolm, Norway. Mr. Schei's parents came to America via Quebec, Canada, in 1867, after a voyage lasting six weeks on the Atlantic ocean. The voyage was made in a sailing vessel. After landing at Quebec, Mr. Schei's parents came direct to Goodhue county, Minnesota, settling near the village of Kenyon. Both father and mother worked out on the neighboring farms the first year, and during the second year they broke ground. In the winter he cut cord wood and broke ground in the summer. In 1870 Mr. and Mrs. Johanes P. Schei moved to Otter Tail county, Minnesota, and, after locating in Tordenskjold township, they homesteaded land and still live on this farm. They have reared a family of ten children.

Olaf J. Schei received his elementary education in Tordenskjold town-

ship and was reared on the home farm. In 1891 he settled in Fergus Falls, entering the employ at that time of J. H. Grass, the well-known clothier. There he learned the clothing business and after being associated with Mr. Grass for seven and one-half years, in 1899, engaged in the clothing business on his own responsibility. Mr. Schei has been remarkably successful, owing principally to his pleasing personality and to his grasp of the clothing business.

By his marriage to Signe Vinje, a native of Kongsvinger, Norway, Olaf J. Schei has four children, Helen T., Russell J., Vernon O. and Harold W.

Mr. Schei is a member of the Sons of Norway, the Modern Woodmen of America and the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks.

ALBERT LARSON.

Born in Sweden on March 4, 1853, Albert Larson, a successful merchant of Clitherall, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, is the son of Lars and Anna (Erickson) Asleson, both of whom were born in Sweden. They were married in their native land and immigrated to Fillmore county, Minnesota, in 1868. In 1872 Mr. and Mrs. Lars Asleson moved to Leaf Mountain township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, and took a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres. Subsequently, they moved to Clitherall, where Lars Asleson spent his last years. He died in 1903 at the age of eighty-four years. His wife died in 1901 at the age of seventy-three. They were the parents of eleven children, Betsey, Albert, Jennie, John, Maria, Anne, Caroline, Matilda, Lewis, Amelia and Ellen. Of these children, Anne, Matilda, Lewis, Amelia and Ellen are deceased.

Albert Larson was reared on a farm in Otter Tail county and educated in the public schools of Leaf Mountain township. When Mr. Larson was old enough, he began working on his father's farm. He later purchased a farm in Leaf Mountain township from Charles J. Wright. He added to this farm until he owned three hundred and forty acres of land, situated in sections 15 and 16. Mr. Larson now has one hundred and eighty acres of that farm. In August, 1908, Mr. Larson moved to Clitherall and purchased the store which he now occupies. He is engaged in the general mercantile business and also owns stock in the Clitherall Grain Association, and in the Clitherall Co-operative Creamery Company.

On December 11, 1880, Albert Larson was married to Lena Halverson, who was born in Norway on August 15, 1864, and who is the daughter of Halvor and Ragna (Martinson) Halverson, both of whom were natives of Norway. Mr. Larson's father remained in Norway, but her mother came to Goodhue county, Minnesota, and after living for a few years in

Faribault and Red Wing came to Otter Tail county in 1873 and settled in Leaf Mountain township, where she died on February 4, 1902, at the age of eighty-five. Her husband had died many years previously in Norway. They were the parents of thirteen children, of whom seven are living: Rebecca, Mary, Robert, John, Ole, Sever and Lena.

Mr. and Mrs. Albert Larson have thirteen children, Lloyd Arthur, John Alfred, Ole Rudolph, Rachel Amanda, Alma Augusta, Henry Marvin, Mabel Josephine, Selma Matilda, Ida Amelia, Clifford Clarence, Edna Grace, Gladys Lillian and Lena Lenora, all of whom are living.

Although Mr. Larson is independent in politics, he has always been active in local affairs. He has served as a member of the council since he came to Clitherall and also as clerk of the village. Mr. and Mrs. Albert Larson and family are members of the United Lutheran church.

JOHN H. LOKEN.

One of the successful merchants of Clitherall, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, is John H. Loken, who is a native of Norway, where he was born on July 30, 1868.

John H. Loken is the son of Hagen J. and Gura (Helseth) Loken, both of whom were born in Norway. Mr. Loken's father was born on October 13, 1833, and his mother on June 6, 1830. After their marriage in Norway, they immigrated to America and settled in Wisconsin in 1870. On July 10, 1871, they settled in Otter Tail county, taking a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres in section 8, of Nidaros township. Hagen J. Loken improved his farm in many ways. He erected good buildings on the farm and lived upon this old homestead until March 16, 1900. His wife died on December 5, 1905. They were members of the United Lutheran church. They had a family of five children, of whom Gunder, the youngest, died in infancy. The living children are Johanna, John H., Josephine and Jens.

John H. Loken was reared on his father's farm and educated in the public schools of Nidaros township. For a number of years he was engaged in farming. When he was twenty-one years old, in 1889, Mr. Loken purchased his father's farm. In 1900 he moved to Clitherall and engaged in the hardware and furniture business. Since that time he has built up a large and prosperous patronage in Clitherall and vicinity. Mr. Loken owns his own place of business as well as his residence in Clitherall. He owns stock in the Clitherall Grain Association and also in the Co-operative Creamery Association and the Farmers' Elevator Company at Vining, Minnesota.

In 1893 John H. Loken was married to Johanna Johnson, who was

born in Sweden, April 21, 1873, and who is the daughter of Andrew and Frederika Johnson. They came from Sweden to America in 1889 and settled in Leaf Mountain township, where Mrs. Loken's father died in 1904, at the age of about seventy-three years. His widow is still living and is now seventy-eight years old.

Mr. and Mrs. John H. Loken have four children: Mabel, born on July 13, 1897, who was educated at the Park Region Luther College, of Fergus Falls; Henry, October 31, 1900; Gordon, April 8, 1905; and Lawrence, August 28, 1907.

Mr. Loken has served as president of the village of Clitherall for two years and is now a member of the Clitherall council. He was clerk of the school board of district No. 53, for twelve years and served as supervisor of the township for three years. Altogether, John H. Loken is one of the most prominent citizens of Clitherall township and one of its most highly respected citizens and business men.

ANDREW GUSTAFSON.

Born in Sweden on January 8, 1860, Andrew Gustafson, a well-known lumber dealer of Clitherall, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, is the son of Gustav Person and Louisa (Ryberg) Gustafson, both of whom were born in Sweden in 1832. They were married in Sweden and there Mr. Gustafson's father died in 1911. His mother is still living in her native land and is now eighty-three years old. The seven children born to Gustav Person Gustafson and wife are: Carl, Andrew, Aunett, Peter, Louisa, Caroline and Anne, all of whom are living. Of these children, Louisa is the wife of Peter Ericksen, of Garfield, Douglas county, Minnesota. With the exception of Andrew and Louisa, the remainder of the family still live in Sweden.

Andrew Gustafson was educated in the public schools of his native land. He came to America in 1882 and settled in Douglas county, Minnesota, where he lived until 1902, when he settled at Clitherall, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, and engaged in the lumber business. Here Mr. Gustafson has built up a most prosperous and growing business in lumber. Prior to coming to Clitherall, he was engaged in the lumber business at Garfield, in Douglas county, for ten years. Mr. Gustafson is a stockholder in the Garfield Creamery Company and also a stockholder in the Clitherall Co-operative Creamery Company. He is now president of the Clitherall council and has served as a member of the school board since he came to Clitherall, with the exception of the last four years. He was also a member of the school board of Garfield, when he resided in Douglas county.

In 1890 Andrew Gustafson was married to Louisa Angus, who was born in Minnesota, and who is the daughter of Robert and Elsie Angus.

Mrs. Gustafson's father is deceased, but her mother is living in Garfield, Minnesota. Mr. and Mrs. Gustafson have four children, William S., Amy C., Roger A. and Anna C.

Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Gustafson are members of the Presbyterian church at Clitherall. They are prominent, not only in religious work, but take an active interest in all public matters.

ADSIT C. HATCH.

One of the most prominent business men and citizens of Otter Tail county, Minnesota, and, in point of years, the oldest merchant in Battle Lake, Minnesota, is a native of Dane county, Wisconsin, where he was born on July 12, 1855.

Adsit C. Hatch is the son of Lorenzo and Clara E. (Adsit) Hatch, both of whom were natives of New York state, the former having been born on March 17, 1822, and the latter on September 29, 1821. Mr. Hatch's paternal grandparents were Wells and Mary (Rexford) Hatch, who were natives of Connecticut and New York state, respectively. They immigrated from New York state to Virginia, where they both died. Mr. Hatch's grandfather was killed during the Civil War. He was a soldier in the First Virginia Cavalry. His death occurred in 1862, when he was seventy-four years old. Timothy Hatch, who was Adsit C. Hatch's great-grandfather, was the son of Jethro Hatch, a major in the Revolutionary War. Adsit C. Hatch is in possession of a sword which Jethro Hatch carried during the Revolutionary War. Major Jethro Hatch participated in the battle of Ticonderoga. Timothy Hatch, the son of Jethro Hatch, enlisted in the Revolutionary army at the age of seventeen and took part in the battle of Saratoga. He was a pensioner at the time of his death in 1856 at the age of ninety-six years. The Hatch family is of English descent.

Mr. Hatch's maternal grandparents were Stephen and Elizabeth (Hyer) Adsit, natives of New York state. They immigrated to Dane county, Wisconsin, and there they both died.

Mr. Hatch's father moved to Virginia when he was eighteen years old. For several years he was superintendent of public works in the District of Columbia. In 1852 his parents located in Dane county, Wisconsin, and there took up a farm. Lorenzo Hatch died in Dane county in June, 1911. His wife had died in 1861. They had four children, Susan, Mary, Clara and Adsit. Lorenzo Hatch was a Democrat in politics, a member of the Legislature and deputy provost marshal during the Civil War. He was a member of the Presbyterian church.

Adsit C. Hatch was reared in Dane county, Wisconsin, on a farm and educated in the public schools. He completed his education at Albion

Academy, the Wisconsin State University and was graduated from a business college at Madison. Until he was twenty-one years old, Mr. Hatch lived on the farm. Shortly after his twenty-first birthday he went to Texas where he lived for two years. He then returned to Wisconsin and lived for two years and then established himself in business at Evansville. Mr. Hatch came to Battle Lake in 1881 and has been continuously in business since that time. He has the longest business career in this town of any man now in business. Mr. Hatch owns the grain elevator at Battle Lake, farm lands in Otter Tail county and other important industrial and financial interests.

On March 9, 1890, Adsit C. Hatch was married to Louisa Sahol, of Battle Lake, Minnesota. To them have been born eleven children, all of whom are living, namely: Susie, Agnes, Charles, Hattie, Edith, Carrie, Alice, Elizabeth, Dorothy, Hester and Lorenzo.

Few men have taken a more active interest in the work of the Minnesota Anti-saloon League than Adsit C. Hatch. He is an implacable foe of the liquor traffic and an ardent believer and advocate of temperance. Mr. Hatch is independent in politics and has never aspired to office. The Hatch family are all members of the Lutheran church and take an active interest in religious affairs.

MARTIN ROSVOLD.

Martin Rosvold, who is a well-known and highly-respected farmer of Otter Tail county, Minnesota, and who has made a success of his chosen vocation, was born at Trondhjem, Norway, March 5, 1858, and is the son of Peter and Annie (Volen) Rosvold.

Mr. Rosvold's parents were also born at Trondhjem and grew up there and were married. The father came to America in 1867, leaving his family in Norway. He lived in Goodhue county, Minnesota, for three years and, in 1869, his wife and five of the six children came to join him. In 1870 the whole family moved to Otter Tail county and settled in Tordenskjold township near the Lutheran church, where they homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of land. Later, however, they sold this farm and purchased one hundred and sixty acres in Dane Prairie township. This land was mainly covered with timber. Mr. Rosvold cleared the land and, from year to year, erected substantial outbuildings, including a house, barn and granary. About fifteen years ago, he retired to a small forty acre tract of land in Tordenskjold township and died there two years later. His wife had died in 1896. They were members of the Lutheran church and reared a family of five children, seven dying early in life. The names of the children in the order of their birth were: Martin, the subject of this sketch; Andor,

who lives in Portland, Oregon; Karen, who is the widow of Sam Kloostad and lives in Duluth, Minnesota; Anna, who lives with her brother, Martin; Andreas, who is a farmer in North Dakota; Olaf, who made his home principally with his brother, Martin, died in Otter Tail county; Ole, who died at the age of three years; the eighth child died in infancy; Anna Margaret, who died at the age of twelve years; John, who died in childhood; and two who died early in life.

Martin Rosvold received a meager educational training in district No. 43, of Dane Prairie township, and was reared on the farm. When he was twenty-four years old, he moved to Port Ransom, North Dakota, where he took up a homestead of one hundred and one acres of land and pre-empted another one hundred and sixty. He cultivated practically all of this land, except fifty acres which were devoted to pasture, and engaged in general farming until 1900, when he returned to Otter Tail county and purchased his father's farm, where he has lived ever since. Mr. Rosvold has erected new buildings, including a house, barn, granary and garage. He is engaged in diversified farming.

When the Rosvold family came to America, they spent from seven to nine weeks on the sailing ship, transportation facilities being very poor at that time. They were compelled to change many times from the cars to a ship and back again to the cars on their way from Quebec to Minnesota and it was a long, hard trip. On moving from Goodhue county, Mr. Rosvold and his father's family spent twenty-two days in all on the trip. Mr. Rosvold's parents and the six children rode in a covered wagon. The roads were terrible and it rained most of the time. The cattle were driven through and some member of the family was compelled to drive them. On arriving in Otter Tail county, the family spent some time in a mere shack with straw thatch for shelter. After breaking three acres of the land, the family had but two dollars. Leaving one dollar with his wife, Peter Rosvold started for Goodhue county with an ox team, where he knew he could obtain work, there being no work in this vicinity. The nearest postoffice at that time was Clitherall. Peter Rosvold started for Goodhue county in November and, after his return, built a small log house. The next year he began to clear the land. During this period, he had but one cow and the family was often compelled to live on dry bread and black prairie tea. Peter Rosvold, however, lived to see better days and his old age was spent in comfort. He died at the age of seventy-five.

Martin Rosvold was married on July 28, 1885, to Olena Eggen, a native of Norway, who was also born near Trondhjem and who is the daughter of Olaf Eggen. The Eggen family came to America and settled in Dakota. Mrs. Rosvold's mother died in Fargo and her father afterward settled in

Ransom county. Mr. and Mrs. Martin Rosvold have been the parents of ten children: Karen, who died early in life; Paul Oscar, who died at the age of two years; Astrid, who married Albert Hoversten, of Waseca, Minnesota, both of whom were educated in the University of Minnesota; Alfred, who helps on the home farm, is a graduate of the agricultural department of the University of Minnesota; Nora, who was educated in the Fergus Falls high school, teaches in the public schools and lives at home; Annie, who is a student in the University of Minnesota; Olaf, who lives at home; Martha Olen, who died in infancy; Agnes and Margaret, both of whom live at home.

Mr. Rosvold has always been independent in politics. He supports measures and men rather than parties and party emblems. He served many years as a school director and has always been keenly interested in education, as the exceptional opportunities which he has given to his children so well prove. The Rosvold family are members of the Swan Lake Lutheran church.

EDWARD L. AASNES.

Born on June 10, 1835, in Norway, Edward L. Aasnes, a prosperous farmer of Dane Prairie township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, is a son of Lars and Ellen Knutson.

Mr. Aasnes's parents spent their entire lives in Norway. His father was a glass-blower by trade, and was employed in a glass factory in his native land. Mr. Aasnes is one of nine children born to his parents; Andrew, the eldest, was also a glass-blower by trade, and died in Norway; Ole, who was a turner by trade, also died in Norway; Cornelius, who was a retired farmer, and who came to St. Olaf township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, in 1867, died in June, 1915, at Fergus Falls; Lawrence, living in Norway; Rasmina lives in Norway; Anna, living in Norway with her husband; Adolf, living in North Dakota; John, who died at the age of four years; Edward L., of Dane Prairie township.

Edward L. Aasnes was educated in the public schools of his native land, and worked at various occupations until 1866, when he emigrated to America, settling first in Iowa. After living in the latter state for one year, he came to Otter Tail county, Minnesota, and settled in St. Olaf township with his brother, Cornelius, with whom he lived for three years. In 1870 Mr. Aasnes homesteaded sixty-eight acres of land in Dane Prairie township, and here built a log house. At this time the Indians still roamed over the prairies and came for miles around to this section to hunt. However, they were very friendly. Under truly pioneer conditions Mr. Aasnes continued to improve and clear his land and erected substantial buildings from time

to time. He prospered as a farmer and has been able to add forty acres more to his original holdings, and now owns one hundred and eighty acres.

In 1880 Edward L. Aasnes was married to Aletta Olson, a native of Norway, born in 1845, at Moss. Mrs. Aasnes is a daughter of Ole and Martha (Larson) Olson, both of whom died in Norway. Mrs. Aasnes came to America in 1871, and has a brother, Otto, and sister living in Chicago. Her sister, Lena, is the wife of Jens Olson.

Edward L. Aasnes and wife are the parents of two children, Oscar, who lives at home and operates the home farm, and Emma Matilda, who died September 12, 1886, at the age of six months.

Upon coming to America Mr. Aasnes identified himself with the Republican party, and served for thirty years as a supervisor in Dane Prairie township. Mr. Aasnes and family are members of the Lutheran church, in which they have always taken an active interest.

OLE CHRISTIAN NELSON.

Prominent in the business life of Battle Lake, Minnesota, is Ole Christian Nelson, who has been continuously engaged in the mercantile business at Battle Lake since the early eighties and who is now doing business in Battle Lake under the firm name of O. C. Nelson & Company.

Born on February 17, 1857, in Norway, Ole Christian Nelson is the son of Nels and Helena (Johnson) Nelson, also natives of Norway, who were born in 1827 and 1825, respectively. Mr. Nelson's father was a farmer by occupation, and died in 1899. On September 15, 1901, Mrs. Helena Nelson came to Battle Lake, Minnesota, and died here on October 16, 1901. They were the parents of five children, of whom two, both named Martenus, are deceased. The living children are, Ole Christian, Josephena and Hans.

Ole Christian Nelson was educated in the public schools of Norway and was confirmed in the Lutheran church at the age of fifteen years. He worked in the lumber-mills and on the railroads of Norway until the spring of 1880, when he came to America and settled at Stillwater, in Washington county, Minnesota, where he was employed by Isaac Staples until 1881, when he moved to Fargo, North Dakota. On July 6, 1881, Mr. Nelson moved to Battle Lake, Minnesota, and for a time, stopped with Hans Gilbertson. He got employment here on the railroad and worked until October 8, 1881, when he returned to Washington county, Minnesota, to work for Mr. Staples. In March, 1882, Mr. Nelson came back to Battle Lake and has resided here ever since. In June, 1882, he bought a one-half interest in the Rustof & Dol meat market, and two years later, purchased the other one-half interest and operated the business for a period of twelve

years. In the meantime he had erected several stores. He first embarked in the grocery business and then branched out in the clothing business and finally in the general mercantile business. His store was burned in 1906 and rebuilt in 1907. He has one store, twenty-five by eighty feet, and just north of that has erected another building, forty by ninety feet. In addition to his private business interests, Mr. Nelson owns stock in the flour-mill and is one of the directors of the company.

On February 26, 1895, Ole C. Nelson was married to Matilda Nickelson, who was born at Baldwin, St. Croix county, Wisconsin, January 31, 1876, and who is the daughter of O. M. and Serine (Olsdatter) Nickelson, natives of Norway, where they were born on September 30, 1844, and 1845, respectively. Mrs. Nelson's parents moved to Wisconsin during the sixties, but later returned to Norway. They immigrated to Battle Creek, Wisconsin, in 1885, and settled on a farm. In 1911 they sold their farm and moved to Battle Lake, where Mrs. Nelson's mother died on October 4, 1913. Mrs. Nelson was the eldest in a family of seven children, the others being, Gusta, Margaret, Eliza, Oscar, Josephine and Mabel. Mr. and Mrs. Ole Christian Nelson have been the parents of six children, Orville, Helmer S., Cameron (deceased), Helen, Robert and Carl.

Mr. Nelson has served as a member of the Battle Lake town council. He and his wife and family are members of the Lutheran church and take an active interest in religious affairs.

REV. DITLEF G. RISTAD.

Rev. Ditlef G. Ristad, president of Park Region Luther College at Fergus Falls, has won for himself a conspicuous position in the educational life of Otter Tail county and of the state of Minnesota. Educated in the schools of his native land and in the best colleges and universities of this country, he is a man of striking personality and by reason of his tolerant political, social and religious views enjoys the confidence of a large circle of friends in this section of Minnesota. He is a minister to and an educator of the people, in the broadest sense of the word and, as the president of the city improvement committee of Fergus Falls, has had much to do with the beautification of that splendid city.

Born in the province of Namdalen, Norway, the Rev. Ditlef G. Ristad is the son of George and Johanna (Bergitte) Ristad, the former of whom, a farmer by occupation, also had charge of the government forests. He died in his native land in 1901. His beloved wife, mother of the subject of this sketch, is still living. The Ristad family is a historic one in Norway and has an unbroken history of four hundred years in one locality. A part of the original house of logs, which has been clapboarded two or three



REV. DITLEF G. RISTAD

times, and where Ditlef G. Ristad was born, is still standing and is now four hundred years old. The first boards put on over the logs were fastened by means of wooden pegs, this being long before nails were in use. The last boarding was in 1812, but these boards were put on with nails.

Ditlef G. Ristad attended the public schools of Norway and subsequently took a three-years course at the State Normal School, after which he taught in the high school for a time and served as a private tutor for three years. He served three years in the army and on September 1, 1887, left his native land for America. Upon landing he immediately proceeded to St. Paul, Minnesota, and for some time turned his hands to anything he could find to do. He worked in the streets and in the stone quarries and was planning to go to New Zealand, where he had relatives who were interested in mining projects. About that time he received a letter from a cousin of his mother's, who had heard of his being in America. This cousin gave him a position in his general store at Mindora, Wisconsin, where he remained until 1889, in the fall of which year he entered the Lutheran Theological Seminary at St. Paul, from which he was graduated in the summer of 1892. He then accepted a call from the church at Koshkonong, Dane county, Wisconsin (a church that was dedicated in 1844 and had the first ordained pastor from Norway), where he served as pastor until 1900, in the meantime (1896-97) taking a post-graduate course in the University of Chicago. During the year 1894 and again in 1904 the Rev. Mr. Ristad traveled extensively in Europe. In 1900 he was elected principal of the Albion Academy at Albion, Wisconsin, and remained there until 1906, when he accepted a call from the Park Region Luther College at Fergus Falls, Minnesota, and has served continuously as president ever since. He is an efficient instructor and a man of splendid executive attainment, who by his own personal force has been instrumental in building up the college of which he is the honored president.

By his marriage to Sara Moltzau Johnson, a native of Milwaukee, Wisconsin, Rev. Mr. Ristad has had two sons, George Rolf and Robert Nicholas.

The Rev. Ditlef G. Ristad is what might be called a "number one" man and citizen, one who has worthily discharged his duties in all the relations of life and who has meritoriously attained a position of honor and trust in the community of his residence. For years he has been a valued contributor to the leading Norwegian newspapers and magazines, both in this country and in Norway and has displayed a keen interest in the "Bygdelag" (provincial societies) movement. Mr. Ristad occupies a very high position in the councils of his communion in this country and served as a member of the committee which prepared the "Lutheran Hymnary," the

official hymn-book of the Norwegian Lutheran church in America, and was one of the editors of the "Lutheran Hymnary, Jr.," a bilingual hymn-book for young people. He also has translated a number of the best English hymns into the Norwegian tongue and has translated the standard Norwegian hymns into English.

JENS P. JENSEN.

Jens P. Jensen, a prosperous farmer of Dane Prairie township, is a native of Tordenskjold township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, where he was born on March 2, 1871. Mr. Jensen is the son of Peter and Maren Christine (Jensen) Jensen, who were born in Denmark and who came to America before their marriage, the father about 1867 and the mother about two years later.

Peter Jensen was eighteen weeks on the water in coming to America. Cholera broke out on the ship in which he made the voyage to America and about one-half of the people on the ship died and were buried at sea. The ship was quarantined in the New York harbor for many months before the survivors were permitted to land. After coming to Otter Tail county, Peter Jensen homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of land and was then married to Christine Jensen and settled on the farm, living there until 1907, when he sold out and moved to Los Angeles, California, which has been his home since, with the exception of three years spent on a farm near Los Angeles. Peter Jensen was compelled to clear his land and cut off the timber, before he could raise a crop on his homestead farm in this county.

The first white men who came to this country through Tordenskjold were Peter Jensen, his brother, Christopher, Jens and Hans Jacobson. Peter Jensen built a house immediately after coming to this county and a part of this house is still standing. He also built a log barn, but in later years before leaving the county erected a frame barn. He was a school director for many years and also held other important township offices. He was a Democrat in politics and one of the organizers of the Sverdrup Mutual Fire Insurance Company. Both he and his wife are devout members of the Lutheran church and he was one of the founders of the Tordenskjold township church. They were the parents of nine children, of whom Anna married John M. Clark and lives in Los Angeles, California; Jens P. is the subject of this sketch; Hans is a farmer of Dane Prairie township; Anton is the general manager of the J. I. Case Threshing Machine Company of Minneapolis, Minnesota; Andrew is a farmer in Orphena, Idaho; Mary, who married Gust Sunday, resides at Ocean Beach, California; Alexander is a farmer in California; Andrea, who was the twin brother of Andrew,

died at the age of fourteen years in 1892; and George Franklin died at the age of nine months.

Jens P. Jensen was educated in the public schools of Tordenskjold township and for many years attended school district No. 95. He was reared on the farm, and having learned the carpenter's trade followed this trade for some years, working in both the East and the West. After his marriage in 1906, Mr. Jensen engaged in farming. Previously he had purchased eighty acres of land in Dane Prairie township, and after his marriage settled on this farm. Shortly afterward he erected a modern house and barn and other substantial outbuildings. Mr. Jensen is interested in the local creamery and in the telephone company.

On May 26, 1906, Jens P. Jensen was married to Hannah Christiansen, a native of Dane Prairie township and the daughter of Peter and Mary Christiansen, who were old settlers from Denmark. Mr. and Mrs. Jens P. Jensen have four children, Pearl Marie, George Afton, Kermit James and Harriet Elizabeth Marian.

Although a Socialist in politics, Mr. Jensen has never aspired to office. He is known in this township as a successful farmer and an enterprising citizen.

HANS P. JENSEN.

Born on his father's farm in Tordenskjold township, Otter Tail county, September 26, 1872, Hans P. Jensen was educated in district No. 95, of Tordenskjold township. Mr. Jensen first attended school in a store building and later in a small log school house. He was reared on the home farm, and when he had grown to young manhood removed to Wilkin county, where, for a number of years, he managed a farm near Foxhome which was owned by his father.

After remaining near Foxhome from 1892 until 1900, Mr. Jensen returned to Dane Prairie township, settling with his brother, Jens, on one hundred and sixty acres of land in section 13. Here he built a house and for the next six years lived as a bachelor. During the fall he was engaged in threshing and in the winter time was engaged in the operation of a saw-mill.

On April 6, 1904, Thomas P. Jensen was married and, although he is still engaged in threshing, he operates the farm. Mr. Jensen's wife, before her marriage, was Anna Christina Tollefson, a native of Sweden and the daughter of Carl A. and Britta (Ash) Tollefson, who are old settlers in Otter Tail county. Mrs. Jensen's grandfather, Andrew Tollefson, homesteaded land in Dane Prairie township about 1868. He died here in 1907. Mrs. Jensen's parents are still living.

Mr. and Mrs. Hans P. Jensen have been the parents of four children, Blanche, Frances, Henry Arnold, who died at the age of nineteen months, and Margaret Amanda.

Hans P. Jensen has always been independent in politics. He is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America. For many years he has served as supervisor of Dane Prairie township. Mr. and Mrs. Jensen are members of the Lutheran church. They are regular attendants at church services and are liberal supporters of the church.

OTTO E. SCHACHTSCHNEIDER.

Although a comparatively young man, Otto E. Schachtschneider, who was born in the northern part of Germany, October 6, 1884, has experienced many of the hardships of pioneer life and knows what it is to perform hard labor.

Mr. Schachtschneider is the son of Robert and Bertha (Perleberg) Schachtschneider. The former was the son of Johan and Fredericka (Schesser) Schachtschneider, who was born in the northern part of Germany. Johan Schachtschneider was a laborer and died in his native land at the age of forty-eight. He was the father of fourteen children, of whom five came to America. The grandmother also came to America and died at the home of Mr. Schachtschneider's father in 1910. Of the five children who came to America, Herman is a farmer of Dane Prairie township; August is a laborer and lives at Canton, Ohio; Otto is a farmer and lives near Underwood, in Sverdruf township; Bertha married Max Miller; and Robert is the father of Otto E. Schachtschneider. The maternal grandparents of Otto E. Schachtschneider were August and Fredericka Perleberg, who came to America from Germany about 1895 and, three years later, immigrated to Otter Tail county, Minnesota. They died in Tordenskjold township, after having reared a family of twelve children, all of whom came to America.

Mr. Schachtschneider's father was born in the northern part of Germany and his mother in the same part of the same country. They grew to maturity and were married in their native land. Like his father, Robert Schachtschneider was a laborer in his native land. In 1885 the family came to America and settled at Cleveland, Ohio. There he became a member of the Lumberman's Longshoremen Association and was engaged in loading boats until 1897. Tiring of city life and desiring a better opportunity for his children, he came to Minnesota, settling in Dane Prairie township, Otter Tail county, where he purchased a farm of one hundred and thirty-six acres of timber land in the southeast quarter of section 23. Although many people may believe that pioneering was a thing of the past in 1897, never-

theless, a part of Dane Prairie township was an unbroken wilderness in those years. Robert Schachtschneider and his family experienced all of the trials of pioneer life. They first built a small house which is a part of their present, though much enlarged, home. As the farm was cleared a new barn was erected and finally, by industry and co-operation on the part of the whole family, the farm was sufficiently cleared to support the family and yield a profit besides. Both parents are still living on the farm. Robert Schachtschneider is an ardent Republican. He and his wife had four children, of whom Herman died in infancy; Otto E. is the subject of this sketch; Charles lives on a part of the home place; and Anna married Charles Drews and lives in section 7, of Dane Prairie township.

Otto E. Schachtschneider was educated in the parochial schools of Cleveland, Ohio, and was still a mere lad when his parents moved to Minnesota. He experienced the hardships and inconveniences attendant upon clearing a large farm and became accustomed to hard work. His father growing old in 1908, Mr. Schachtschneider began renting the place and has continued so ever since. He is a general farmer and raises very fine crops.

In 1910 Otto E. Schachtschneider was married to Bertha Boeder, who was born in Dane Prairie township. They have five children, Elmer, Arnold, Anna, John and Arthur.

No family deserves more credit for what it has accomplished in the face of adverse circumstances than the Schachtschneiders, and no young man in this township is more highly respected than Otto Schachtschneider, the subject of this sketch.

THOMAS LARSON.

The late Thomas Larson, who was a well-known citizen of Dane Prairie township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, and who was prominent in the civic and political life of his community during his life time, was born at Chicago, Illinois, August 18, 1857.

Mr. Larson was the son of Peter and Christine Larson, who were natives of Norway and who grew to manhood and womanhood in that country. Peter Larson was thrice married. After coming to America he was married in Chicago, Illinois, to Christine Larson. Shortly after his marriage, he moved to Goodhue county, Minnesota, where he lived for a few years. In 1872 he moved to Otter Tail county, homesteading one hundred and sixty acres in the southern part of Dane Prairie township, which at that time was a wilderness. During the next few years, he improved the farm and erected modern buildings, living on the farm until his death in 1905. His widow is still living and makes her home with her son, Chris-

tian. They were the parents of ten children, of whom Louis is a farmer in one of the western states; John lives one and one-half miles east of the Thomas Larson farm; Thomas F. was the third child; Carrie, who married Jens Peterson, is deceased; Christian lives on his father's homestead farm; Anna, who is a resident of Fergus Falls, has been twice married, the first time to Christian Dahl and the second time to Sorren Larson; Henrietta, who is deceased, was the wife of John McGrath, who is also deceased; Martin is a farmer in Tumuli township; Ludwig is a dentist at Finley, North Dakota; and Emma, who married Andrew Bollingmoe, lives in Fergus Falls.

Thomas Larson was educated in the common schools of Fergus Falls and in the high school. He was reared on the farm and in 1892 purchased about two hundred acres of land in Dane Prairie township, immediately thereafter erecting a new barn and a new house. He lived upon the farm until his death and was always engaged in general farming. Some years before Mr. Larson's marriage, he operated a threshing machine and a well-drilling outfit, and drilled many wells in Otter Tail county, but at the time of his marriage he sold his threshing machine and well-drilling outfit.

On March 26, 1892, Thomas Larson was married to Mary Thompson, a native of near Trondhjem, Norway, where she was born on December 25, 1892. Mrs. Larson is the daughter of Bernt and Inger (Guldseth) Thompson, who came to America in a sailing vessel in 1894. After living in Hudson county for two years, they moved to St. Olaf township, Otter Tail county, in 1866. After living there for one year, they moved to Dane Prairie township, and homesteaded a quarter section of land in section 21. There they lived for some years and then sold out to their son, Nels B., purchasing one hundred acres of land across the lake, where Mrs. Larson's father died on August 16, 1902. The mother lived with her daughter, Mrs. Larson, until her death on July 3, 1904. They were the parents of twelve children, six of whom are living. Mrs. Larson's father was a man of retiring disposition. When he came to Otter Tail county, he traveled from Hudson county to St. Paul by rail and then up the Mississippi by boat to St. Cloud. From St. Cloud, he traveled by ox team to Otter Tail county, spending two weeks on the way. He was an ardent Republican.

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Larson were the parents of two children, Cora, born on March 3, 1894, who was graduated from the Park Region Luther College in 1911 and, after attending the St. Cloud normal, has been engaged in teaching; and Bernhard, January 6, 1897, who was educated in the public schools. The father of these children, the late Thomas Larson, died on March 15, 1908.

Mr. Larson was an ardent Republican and served in many positions

of trust and responsibility. He filled the office of township clerk for fifteen years and was also a member of the school board from the time he was twenty-one years old until his death. He could always be found at Republican conventions and was extremely popular in politics. Had he lived, he would have been a candidate for the Legislature. Mr. Larson was a member of the Swan Lake Lutheran church and his widow is an active worker in this church today.

LOUIS CORNELIUS OLSON.

Louis Cornelius Olson, a member of the firm of Olson Brothers, who operate a retail business in clothing and men's furnishings at Battle Lake, Minnesota, is a native of Clitherall township, where he was born on March 22, 1883, on a farm.

Mr. Olson is the son of Christian and Louise (Hanson) Olson, who were natives of Eidsvold, Norway. Mr. Olson's parents came to America separately about 1869 and, after arriving in America, settled in Goodhue county, Minnesota, where they were married. One year later they immigrated to Otter Tail county, homesteading one hundred and sixty acres of land in Clitherall township, at a time and place where the nearest railroad station was at St. Cloud, sixty miles away. The Olson homestead farm was originally wild land.

Christian Olson built a dugout some forty rods away from the present house, and after two years replaced this dugout with a log house. From time to time, additional acres of the farm were put under cultivation and Mr. Olson came eventually to own two hundred and forty acres, some of which was covered with timber. Eventually, the log house was replaced with a commodious frame house, in which the family lived until the spring of 1907, when they sold the farm and moved to Battle Lake, where they have since lived retired. Christian Olson is seventy-one years old and his good wife, who is also still living, is only three years his junior. He has been prominent in the political and civic life of this county and, until recently, voted the Republican ticket, but is now identified with the Prohibition party. He and his wife are members of the Free Lutheran church.

Of the nine children born to Mr. and Mrs. Christian Olson, the eldest died in infancy; Marvin R., who is the manager of the Dwight Farm and Land Company and the Farmers' Elevator Company, resides at Dwight, North Dakota; Henry is the postmaster at Battle Lake and the partner of his brother in the clothing and furnishing business; Thorvald and Hans both died at the age of eight years; Louis Cornelius is the subject of this sketch; Thea is the wife of Charles Peterson, a farmer of near McCluskey, North Dakota; Mary, who is unmarried and at home, is employed as assist-

ant postmaster; Hattie, who taught for some years at Wadena and later at Battle Lake and lives at home.

Louis Cornelius Olson was educated in the public schools of Clitherall township and at the Park Region Luther College. He lived on the farm until 1910, managing the farm after his father had retired. In 1910 Mr. Olson homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of land in Meade county, South Dakota, and there he lived for eighteen months, when he returned to Battle Lake and became assistant postmaster under his brother, Henry. After serving one year as assistant postmaster, Mr. Olson engaged in partnership with his brother. They purchased the H. L. Wagner clothing and furnishing business on Lake street and this business is now managed by Louis C. Olson.

On September 21, 1907, Louis C. Olson was married to Emma Peterson, a native of Sweden and the daughter of Peter Nelson. Mrs. Olson came to America to join her brothers, who were already in this country. Mr. and Mrs. Olson have no children.

Louis C. Olson is independent in politics. He and his wife are members of the Free Lutheran church.

TOSTEN JACOBSON.

Tosten Jacobson, an enterprising farmer of Dane Prairie township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, was born on the farm where he now lives in Dane Prairie township, November 1, 1876. Mr. Jacobson is the son of Hans and Mallena (Torstenson) Jacobson.

Mr. Jacobson's paternal grandparents were Hans and Mary Jacobson, who were natives of Denmark and who spent their entire lives in that country. The grandfather was a soldier in the army and a farmer by occupation. They were the parents of three sons, of whom Hans, the father of Tosten, was the eldest. The other two children were Sakereas, who died in Montana, where he was a farmer; and Jens, who was a tailor in Minneapolis and died there. The paternal grandfather was twice married and had two daughters by his second marriage, who died in Denmark. Mr. Jacobson's maternal grandparents were Torsten Torstenson and Mallena Knutson, natives of Norway, who immigrated to America about 1868, settling in Tordenskjold township, where the maternal grandfather homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of land and where both he and his wife died. They had two sons and four daughters. Of these, Martha died at the age of eighteen years in Norway; Brita, who married Albert Josephson, died in Tordenskjold township; Mallena is the mother of Mr. Jacobson; Kari, who married Samuel Moklo, lives near Battle Lake; Martha, the widow of Jacob Thompson, lives near Underwood; Tosten, who lives in

Tordenskjold township, is referred to elsewhere in this volume; Knut died unmarried in Otter Tail county.

Mr. Jacobson's father was born on June 20, 1840, at Guslau, Denmark, and his mother born on June 12, 1852, near Christiana, Norway. She was brought to America by her parents when sixteen years old. Her husband came to America when he was thirty years old, being accompanied to this country by his brother, Jens. They came to this country in a sailing vessel and spent three weeks in making the voyage. After stopping about one month in southern Minnesota, they came to Otter Tail county and intended to take up a homestead. After arriving in this county, they purchased a team of oxen and a wagon. Jens homesteaded a tract of land in Tordenskjold township. Mr. Jacobson's father, Hans Jacobson, homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres in section 12, of Dane Prairie township. Afterward he erected a log house on Jens' homestead farm and then erected a log house about ten rods east of his present house.

The brothers worked together clearing and breaking the land. Later each was able to buy a team. Hans Jacobson kept on with his improvements and lived in the original house until his death in 1887. His widow is still living. She is a member of the Tordenskjold township Lutheran church as was also her husband, who was the founder of the church. Hans and Mallena (Torstenson) Jacobson were the parents of six children, Mary, who married Ole Eggen and lives in Orwell township; Tosten, the subject of this sketch; Jacob, who lives at home; Martin, who is a farmer in Orwell township and married Mary Sunberg; Hannah, who lives at home; and Jens, who died at the age of two years. Mrs. Hans Jacobson had one child by a former marriage, Jensena, who is now the wife of Alfred Samison, of Montana.

Tosten Jacobson was educated in the public schools of Otter Tail county and was reared on a farm in this county. In partnership with his brother, Jacob, he took over the management of the home farm and has since operated it. They are engaged in general farming and stock raising and have been very successful. Under the able management of the two brothers, the farm has been kept in a very high state of cultivation. The buildings are all well painted and thoroughly modern. Tosten Jacobson is a member of the Lutheran church. Formerly, he was a member of the Modern Woodmen of America.

Mrs. Hans Jacobson, the mother of Tosten Jacobson, has lived on the present farm for forty-seven years. When the family first came to Otter Tail county, Indians were plentiful in this vicinity, but were always friendly. Mr. Jacobson himself remembers the Indians very well and especially when they came to watch him plowing as a boy. In this vicinity the Indians were

honorable and upright in their relations with the white settlers and were never known to steal. Mr. Jacobson himself furnished bread to one Indian during a period of about ten years.

HANS P. BERG.

Of the citizens of Vining engaged in business, Hans P. Berg is one of the best known. A man who has taken an active interest in the development of the county and the promotion and advancement of the town of his residence, he is among those men who for their part in community affairs are given a conspicuous rank in the roll of citizenship of Otter Tail county.

Hans P. Berg was born in Trondhjem, Norway, July 13, 1849, the son of Haldor Haldorson and Guriana Ivorson, who were born at the same place, the father in the year 1822 and the mother in the year 1819. Haldor Haldorson was a shoemaker in his native land, a trade which he followed for some time and then engaged in the business of a contractor and builder until his death in the 1894, he and his wife being drowned in a flood which overswept their small farm in that year. To Haldor Haldorson and Guriana Ivorson were born two children: Hans P., the subject of this sketch, and Gunirius H., who was a merchant at Surrey, North Dakota, where he died during the winter of 1915, his remains being brought to Vining, Minnesota, on February 22, for interment.

Hans P. Berg was educated in a public school which moved from farm to farm, in Norway, stopping for two days in each week where students were brought together. After his school days Hans P. Berg worked for a time on a farm, and in 1871 went to the city of Trondhjem, where he learned the trade of a horse-shoer and blacksmith, later following his trade for seven years with the cavalry of Norway, and then after a short time he came to America, in 1881, and located at the city of Minneapolis, Minnesota, where for the next two months he was employed at a saw-mill. Later Hans P. Berg went to Underwood where he took a position with the Kellogg Chair Company, where he remained for one and one-half years and then came to the town of Vining and established a blacksmith shop which he conducted for about five years. He then went to the Pacific coast and located in British Columbia and then in the state of Washington, later returning to Otter Tail county and settling on a farm of eighty acres which he had homesteaded in the year 1883. Mr. Berk lived on his farm for about two years and then became a wheat buyer for the Farmers' Elevator Company, a business which he followed for sixteen years. In 1895 Hans P. Berg entered into partnership with the firm of Nyhus & Berg, a business in which Mr. Berg was interested for eleven years when he disposed of his holdings and

returned to the business of buying wheat until the year 1911, when he established a store for the sale of flour, feed and grain, together with farm implements, a business in which he is now successfully engaged. Hans P. Berg has erected a splendid building for his business and among other improvements has built a modern home, where he lives.

Not only in business pursuits but in public life, has Hans P. Berg been an important element of the citizenship of Vining and of Otter Tail county. Mr. Berg has served well as a member of the village council and at the present time is the occupant of the important office of assessor. In politics Mr. Berg is an ardent Republican. Hans P. Berg is a member of the United Lutheran church and he is affiliated with the society of the Sons of Norway.

During the year 1873 Hans P. Berg was married to Marit Anderson, who was born in Norway, in which country she and Mr. Berg were married and a year after the marriage she came to America to join her husband who had preceded her, and about five years later she died. Hans P. and Marit Berg were the parents of one daughter, who married Ole Anderson, an insurance man.

Hans P. Berg was married, secondly, during the year 1905, to Martha Berg, who was the daughter of Olaus Berg and wife. Olaus Berg was a farmer who lived near Battle Lake. He died about the year 1898. To the second marriage of Hans P. Berg no children were born.

Hans P. Berg is one of the men of Otter Tail county who have done much for the progress and advancement of living conditions and for the promotion of business prosperity in the locality, and is a man who, with his wife, are esteemed and highly respected residents of the town of Vining.

HENRY OLSON.

Henry Olson, who has served as postmaster at Battle Lake, Minnesota, for the past fifteen years and who is vice-president of the First National Bank of Battle Lake and is now engaged in partnership with his brother in the mercantile business at Battle Lake, is a native of Clitherall township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, where he was born on August 10, 1873. Mr. Olson was born three and one-half miles south of Battle Lake.

The parents of Henry Olson are Christian Olson and Louise (Hanson) Olson, who were born at Eidsvold, Norway. They came separately to America before their marriage, his father in 1867 and his mother in 1868, and settled in Goodhue county, Minnesota, where they were married. In 1870 they moved to Otter Tail county and homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of land in Clitherall township. The land was prairie and the nearest railroad was at St. Cloud, sixty miles away. Christian Olson built a dugout about forty rods from the present house and began to cultivate

the prairie. After two years he built a log house. He prospered and, in time, came to own two hundred and forty acres, including some timber land. Finally, he built a frame house, where he lived until the spring of 1907, when he sold the farm and retired to a home in Battle Lake, where he and his wife are now living, the former at the age of seventy-one and the latter three years his junior. Christian Olson has filled many township and local offices. Formerly he was identified with the Republican party, but lately has been voting the Prohibition ticket. Both he and his wife are members of the Free Lutheran church.

Christian and Louise (Hanson) Olson were the parents of nine children, the firstborn died in infancy; Marvin R., who lives at Dwight, North Dakota, is manager of the Dwight Farm and Land Company and manager of the Farmers' Elevator Company; Henry is the subject of this sketch; Thorvald died at the age of eight years; Hans also died at the age of eight; Louis Cornelius is referred to elsewhere in this volume; Thea married Charles Peterson, a farmer living near McCluskey, North Dakota; Mary, who is unmarried, is the assistant postmaster at Battle Lake and lives at home with her parents; Hattie is a teacher and lives at home. She taught for some years in the Battle Lake schools and later in Wadena, but on account of ill health had to lay down the work.

Henry Olson was educated in the public schools of Clitherall township and at Battle Lake. He was reared on a farm and began life as a clerk for Orris Albertson at Battle Lake in 1891. After working for Mr. Albertson for three years, he was employed for three years as a traveling salesman for a wholesale fruit company. In 1897, in partnership with Christ Leithe, Mr. Olson, under the firm name of Olson & Leithe, engaged in the mercantile business in the building now occupied by P. J. Elseth. After being engaged in business for three years, Mr. Olson was appointed postmaster on March 21, 1901, and has served continuously as postmaster ever since.

Mr. Olson confined his activities to the postoffice until October 1, 1913, when he went into partnership with his brother, Louis C., and purchased the H. L. Wagner clothing and furnishing store, which has since been operated under the firm name of Olson Brothers. Mr. Olson owns the building in which the store is housed and lives over the store. He is vice-president of the First National Bank of Battle Lake and has served in this capacity since its organization in the early part of 1907.

In August, 1896, Henry Olson was married to Lizzie Olson, the daughter of Hans Olson Ekeberg, an old settler of Henning, Minnesota. Mrs. Olson was born near Faribault, Minnesota, and died on April 15, 1900, leaving two children, Harley Luman, born on September 8, 1898, and Ethel

Lizzie Isola, April 1, 1900. Mr. Olson was married, secondly, on June 18, 1901, to Julia Herness, a native of Eagle Lake township and the daughter of Lars Herness, an old settler of Otter Tail county, who came here in 1868. To the second marriage, there have been born two children, Ruth Henrietta, born on October 7, 1908, and Reuben Joseph, May 25, 1910.

Mr. Olson has served a year as a member of the village council. He and his wife and the members of the Olson family belong to the United Lutheran church and are active in the work of the church. Henry Olson is a good man and a good citizen. He has been conscientious in the performance of every public duty and has prospered in his own private affairs.

CHRISTIAN E. BERG.

Among the men of success in business pursuits at Vining, Otter Tail county, is Christian E. Berg, who as a merchant of hardware and furniture has brought to the community its only convenience in this line, and who as a citizen in private life and as the occupant of public office has taken no minor part in the advancement and progress of the various activities of the locality.

Christian E. Berg was born in Norway twenty miles north of the city of Trondhjem, the son of Olaus and Rebecca Berg, who were born at Trondhjem, and later were married in the same locality. Olaus Berg was a farmer who owned extensive land interests in Norway where he lived until about the year 1889 when, with his wife, he came to America and settled in Everts township, northeast of Battle Lake, in Otter Tail county, where he died. His wife, Rebecca Berg, moved to the town of Vining, where she died some time later. Olaus and Rebecca Berg were members and active workers in the United Lutheran church. To the marriage of Olaus and Rebecca Berg were born the following children: Christian E., the subject of this sketch; Martha, who married Hans P. Berg, a merchant of Vining, Minnesota; and Kari, who married Martin Knutson and lives northeast of Battle Lake.

Christian E. Berg was educated in the public school in Norway, from which he was graduated and then studied for two years in a college of his native land. In 1887 he came to America and located at Battle Lake, Minnesota, where he bought one hundred and sixty acres of land in Everts township and there lived for about twenty years, after which he came to the town of Vining and was employed in a hardware store until the year 1906, when he established himself in the hardware and furniture business, in which he has since been engaged, being the only merchant of the town carrying a like stock.

Christian E. Berg is also interested as a stockholder in the Farmers'

Elevator Company, at Vining, and also interested in a similar industry at Battle Lake. Mr. Berg has served his community in the office of justice of the peace, as treasurer of the school district, and for ten years was school director, also being for seventeen years supervisor of the township of Everts. In politics Mr. Berg is an ardent Republican.

Christian E. Berg is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America, an organization which honored him by his election to the office of consul. Mr. Berg is also affiliated with the Sons of Norway, for which organization he served some years as secretary. Christian E. Berg never married.

Christian E. Berg is one of the highly respected and honored men of Otter Tail county and a man who is recognized as one of the leaders in business affairs and in general matters of the county.

THOMAS A. RANSTAD.

Thomas A. Ranstad, a prosperous automobile dealer of Battle Lake, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, who was formerly engaged in railroad work, but who has lately been engaged in various lines of the mercantile business, is a native of Flekkefjord, Norway, where he was born on August 10, 1858.

Mr. Ranstad is the son of Aslak and Karen (Tonette) Ranstad. Mr. Ranstad's parents never came to America. His father was a farmer and landowner in his native land and both his father and mother died in Norway. They were members of the Lutheran church and reared a family of three children, Andreas, who was a farmer, is deceased; Mallena, who died when seven years of age; and Thomas A., the subject of this sketch, who was the only one of the family who ever came to America.

Educated in the public schools of Norway and reared on the farm, Thomas A. Ranstad was employed on the farm until he had reached his majority, when he came to America. Upon reaching this country in 1879, Mr. Ranstad located at Willmar, Minnesota, where he divided his energy and activities between the farm and railroad work. For two years he was foreman of the yards of the Great Northern railroad at Breckenridge and had the honor to lay the first rail from the Aberdeen branch of the Great Northern railroad at Breckenridge in 1886. During 1886 and a part of 1887, Mr. Ranstad spent six months in Norway on a pleasure trip, but upon his return to America resumed his position as foreman of the Great Northern yards at Breckenridge. Subsequently, he became roadmaster of the Aberdeen branch of the Great Northern and, in the spring of 1888, left the railroad work and for a time lived at Rutland, North Dakota, where he was engaged in the retail sale of flour, feed, fuel, etc. The next year, he engaged in the hardware and machinery business and continued in this business until 1896, when he came to Battle Lake and engaged in the same line of business

on Lake street. Two years later, in 1898, Mr. Ranstad took a partner into the firm, which became that of Ranstad & Hansen. This partnership lasted eight years and a large and prosperous business was built up. In 1912 Mr. Ranstad sold out the hardware business but still retains his interest in the implement business. In 1912 he became the agent in this section for the Ford automobiles and is engaged in this business in partnership with J. B. Thompson. The firm handles about seventy-five automobiles each year.

In 1889 Thomas A. Ranstad was married to Gurine Olson, a native of Wisconsin, and to them have been born three children, Albert, Carl and Millard. Albert is employed in a wholesale hardware store at St. Paul. Carl is a barber at Battle Lake. Millard is employed by the International Harvester Company at St. Cloud. The mother of these children died in 1897, and about 1901 Mr. Ranstad was married to Hilda Lundberg. To this second union have been born four children, Harold, Lloyd, Helen and Beatrice.

In 1912 Mr. Ranstad and Mr. Thompson built a new garage out of concrete. It is a substantial building, forty by one hundred and forty feet. Mr. Ranstad was one of the organizers of the Otter Tail county sanitarium. He has been a member of the board of directors since its organization. This sanitarium is located on Otter Tail lake.

Mr. Ranstad has served a year as mayor of Battle Lake and two years as a member of the school board. He is also a member of the village council. In politics, Mr. Ranstad is a Republican. Fraternally, he is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America.

OSCAR F. LARSON.

Oscar F. Larson, farmer, of Carlisle township, Otter Tail county, was born on June 29, 1857, in Sweden, and is a son of Lars and Anna Anderson. He was educated in the schools of his native country, and assisted his father on the farm until 1883, when he came to America, settling at Wilkesbarre, Pennsylvania, where he worked in the coal mines. In 1885 he came to Otter Tail county, remaining one year, and for the next five years was employed in various pursuits in different states. In 1890 he bought his present farm, consisting of one hundred and sixty acres, in Carlisle township, where he has since lived. Mr. Larson has put all the improvements on his place, where he has followed general farming and stock raising, including eight or nine good cows. In politics, Mr. Larson is an independent voter. He is a member of the United Lutheran church. In addition to buildings and other valuable improvements, Mr. Larson has planted a fine grove and a good orchard near his house.

Lars Anderson, father of Oscar F., was born in 1800, in Sweden, as

was also his wife, Anna Anderson. They were farmers and spent their entire life in their native country.

Oscar F. Larson was united in marriage, in 1890, with Christina Johnson, a native of Norway, by whom he has had two children: Alma L., who became the wife of William A. Gardiner, and has one child, Harold; Roy, the second child, is at home with his parents.

Mr. Larson is a splendid example of the thrifty and industrious citizen, and his career has been characterized by a marked degree of success.

REV. GEORGE J. RAUCH.

Born in Meire Grove, Oak township, Stearns county, Minnesota, September 19, 1881, Rev. George J. Rauch, pastor of the church of Our Lady of Victory, of Fergus Falls, this county, is the son of Michael and Ann Dorothy (Weber) Rauch.

Michael Rauch was a native of Bavaria, Germany, and his wife also a native of the German Empire, having been born near Mainz. Michael Rauch was but three years old when he came to America with his parents in 1857. After landing in America, they came to Minnesota, locating at St. Joseph, in Stearns county, where they remained for one year and then moved to Meire Grove, in the same county, and it was in Stearns county that Michael Rauch was reared to manhood. Father Rauch's mother, who before her marriage was Ann Dorothy Weber, came to America in 1867 with her parents, who settled at Meire Grove.

Michael Rauch grew to manhood in Stearns county and, after attaining maturity, took up farming as a business. Later he became a contractor and builder and about 1883, moved to Melrose, Minnesota, and in 1910 moved to Vancouver, British Columbia, where he is still living. It was at Melrose that Father Rauch grew to manhood and obtained his early schooling.

In 1894 George J. Rauch entered St. John's College, where he received a classical education. He was a student in St. John's Seminary for five years and at St. John's College for six years, altogether a period of eleven years. Ordained to the holy priesthood at Melrose, Father Rauch became assistant pastor of the church at St. Boniface and pastor of St. Patrick's church.

In 1908 he was transferred to Fergus Falls, where he has enjoyed a wider opportunity for Christian work. Before long he realized the need for the erection of a new church and, having gone about it systematically, was able, in 1911, to complete a most desirable edifice of brick, which has a seating capacity of from four to five hundred people, and at the same time erected a commodious and comfortable parish house.

Rev. George J. Rauch has performed a splendid work in the parish



REV. GEORGE J. RAUCH.

of Our Lady of Victory and is gradually growing in influence and favor. His fine personality and his kindly Christian bearing have endeared him to the hearts of all who live in his parish as well as to the community at large and he enjoys the profound respect of all.

CHARLES A. LUND.

Charles A. Lund by his administrative ability and his powers as a business man, has lent new dignity and prestige to a family whose name has been honorably linked with the history of Otter Tail county for a period of over thirty years. As a son of one of the most successful agriculturists of the section of Minnesota in which he lives, he has stood as an exponent of that strong and noble manhood which characterized so admirably the life of his father. His career has been one of consecutive industry and his success has not been an accident, but a logical result. As cashier of the bank at Vining, he has served with a devotion to duty which has been both profitable and pleasing to the public at large. Charles A. Lund is a son of Andrew Lund, whose life was remarkable for its great achievement and unqualified success.

Andrew T. Lund was born near Namsos, Norway, on the 22nd of August, 1848. He was the son of Torger Balzerson, a native of Alstahaug, Helegeland, Norway, and Boletta Margareta Anderson, a native of Fosnes, Norway. Torger Balzerson followed the occupation of a sailor and a pilot most of his life. After a life of activity and success he retired to his farm at Lund, where he spent his last days with his children. His death occurred in 1864. Both parents were devout members of the Lutheran church. Of the family reared by the parents of Andrew Lund; Annie, the wife of Alexander Gjissness, came to America with her brother, Andrew, and died in 1912, in Wisconsin; Peter lived at Lund, Norway, on the farm left by his father until his death, which occurred in March, 1915; Martha, the widow of Peter Eide, still lives in Norway, but has a son Peter residing in Folden township, and a son Anton who is living in Canada; Maren, the widow of Andrew Thorstep, lives in Helegeland, Norway; Thea, the widow of Benjamin Hanson Lund, resides in Lund, Norway; Ellen, who married Helge Gmdtedt, a teacher, died early in life, leaving a son Magne who is at the present time residing in Vining; Andrew is the father of the subject of this sketch, and Edward T. is a resident of Vining. The third child, Olava, married Eric Menzen and after his death became the wife of Peter Arnsson. She is buried in Norway.

As a boy Andrew Lund chose a life on the sea, and at the age of seventeen decided to cross the Atlantic ocean. After landing in America he went

to Hudson, Wisconsin, where he was occupied in the winter in the lumber business and in the spring he obtained employment on the St. Croix river. For ten years he worked on the boat line and during that time gained many valuable experiences and made many acquaintances. He formed a very interesting acquaintance with Senator Moses E. Clapp.

In the spring of 1868, Andrew T. Lund married Annie Amundson, at Hudson. In the spring of 1879, he and his wife came by rail to Perham, Minnesota, and from there to Nidaros township they went by a team of oxen. After settling in Nidaros township they began the task of homesteading eighty acres of land, which was located in section 2. The farm, which was a wilderness, was gradually transformed into a cultivated tract of land under the management of Mr. Lund. After a short period of residence on the farm the community life in that section was brightened by the fact that the Northern Pacific railroad would cut through that township. In 1881, the building of the road was completed and the village of Lund sprung up (which was later changed to Vining), a place named in honor of the family of which Charles Lund is a member. To the village since that time, have been drawn other lines of enterprise until now in its attractiveness it remains a worthy monument to him whose name it honors.

During his early days on the farm Andrew Lund was not wholly occupied with its duties, he found time to enter other fields of work and on account of his ability was readily chosen as a leader. He became agent for the Andrews & Gage Grain Elevator Company, and as his business grew to large proportions, Mr. Lund was soon able to lease the elevator, and when his success was assured he bought out the entire plant. Aside from this line of work Mr. Lund was also engaged in the general mercantile business, in partnership with Ole T. Nyhus. For twenty years Mr. Lund held the appointment of postmaster and executed the duties of that office in an efficient manner. As he continued to succeed in various lines of business enterprise, Mr. Lund from time to time added to his land possessions, until at the time of his death he was owner and manager of two thousand acres of land, and was known throughout that section of Minnesota as one of the largest landowners in Otter Tail county.

In 1904 Mr. Lund organized and placed on a firm basis the Bank of Vining, with he and his sons as stockholders. In 1908 the bank was incorporated as Lunds' State Bank, with Mr. Lund as president, an office he held until December 16, 1908, when his death occurred. The bank had a capital stock of ten thousand dollars and a very handsome surplus at the time of the death of its president. In the affairs of education Andrew Lund always expressed a deep interest, and was often called upon to assist in school affairs. He served as trustee of Concordia College, at Moorhead, and also

was trustee of St. Luke's hospital, at Fergus Falls, an institution he helped to organize. As a Republican he was honored with positions of high standing and at the time of his death had held every township office. He was at one time a candidate for the Republican nomination to Congress and in the convention held the balance of power, which his withdrawal threw to the forces of Frank M. Eddy. As a candidate for the state Senate Mr. Lund gave another exciting race and during his life gave evidence of a deep enthusiasm for Republican party and its cause.

Andrew Lund was able to enter many fields of endeavor and carry out successfully every undertaking. He was devout in religious affairs and through his efforts the United Lutheran church at Vining was erected and placed on a firm foundation. As a member of the church he did everything in his power for its welfare. He donated the ground for its location and even solicited funds for the erection of the present building. Mr. Lund was president of the Sons of Norway. He was also a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and of the Modern Woodmen of America.

Andrew T. and Annie (Amundson) Lund were the parents of the following children: Thea became the wife of Rev. J. C. Herre and is living in New York city; Melvin resides in Vining, as a farmer and a lumberman; Charles is the subject of this sketch; Oscar is a merchant in Vining; Harry A. manages the homestead farm; Andrew T. is president of the bank and is in the real-estate business; Emil A. resides at Vining; Gundrun married Thoe Thoen, of Thoen Brothers clothing store at Minneapolis, and Boletta, who married William Huntington, a merchant, lives in Paynesville, Minnesota. Mrs. Andrew Lund passed away on the 3rd of July, 1904.

Charles A. Lund was born in Hudson, Wisconsin, on the 14th of October, 1878. His early education was received in the public schools of Vining and after completing the common-school course, he attended school at Concordia College, from which institution he was graduated in the class of 1896. His education was completed in the St. Paul College of Law, from which he received the degree of LL.B. in 1904. He was admitted to the bar but after a short time returned to Vining where he helped his father organize the bank of which institution he has been cashier since its organization. The business of the bank has steadily increased and in 1913 a new brick building was erected, containing vaults modeled after those in the National Bank of Fergus Falls. The bank at the present time has over one hundred depositors. Mr. Lund is executor of his father's estate, though a large part of it was divided previous to his death.

The farm of two hundred acres near the village of Vining occupies a great deal of the attention of Charles Lund. He is a breeder of Shorthorn cattle of which he has forty-six head. His aim is to rear only purebred

stock. In 1912 Mr. Lund erected a modern house and barn and has two silos on the place. The barn was destroyed by a cyclone.

Following the example of his father, Charles Lund has remained loyal to the cause of the Republican party. He is president of the village of Vining. He is a member of the United Lutheran church.

On the 30th of June, 1908, Charles A. Lund was united in marriage to Matilda Westberg, a resident of Fergus Falls, and the daughter of August Westberg, a member of one of the oldest families in Otter Tail county. To Mr. and Mrs. Charles A. Lund the following children have been born: Corrinne Elizabeth, who was born on October 18, 1909, and Wesley Carlton, April 28, 1912, and died on June 30, 1914.

Mr. Lund has been chairman of the school board, succeeding his father in 1900. He has the honor of having built the first consolidated school in Otter Tail county, which is a step in advance of the educational system in this section. For a distance of two miles around the school site children are brought each day to the up-to-date building, where the influence is more lasting and the conditions more healthful than those found in the old-time district school of the rural community.

CHRIS EVJEN.

In 1880 Mr. Evjen left his native home in Norway for the more attractive advantages of the United States, and here he has acquired the reputation of being one of the most prosperous and successful merchants. At Carlisle, Minnesota, where he carries a modern stock of merchandise, his reputation for straightforward dealing is not only well known in that vicinity, but has reached far beyond the limits of the community.

Chris Evjen, merchant, of Carlisle, Carlisle township, Otter Tail county, was born on February 3, 1861, at Trondhjem, Norway, and is a son of Nels and Evjen (Ingeburg) Evjen. His education was obtained at the public schools of Norway, and after finishing his studies, he assisted his father on the farm for a time, leaving Trondhjem, Norway, for America on April 14, 1880, arriving in this country on May 17. He first worked in Olmstead county, at Rochester, and on April 1, 1881, came to Carlisle and was employed on a farm at this place for a few years. In 1887 Mr. Evjen began farming for himself on a rented farm. In 1890 he bought the store which he now owns and operates, carrying on a general merchandise business. On March 18, 1891, Mr. Evjen was appointed postmaster of Carlisle, and in 1905 was made agent for the Great Northern railroad. He has been a large buyer of grain from the time of locating at Carlisle. Politically, he has always been an independent voter in both local and state politics. He has taken an active interest in matters of local interest, serving

as clerk of Carlisle township for twenty-eight years, and for the same length of time served as constable.

Nels and Evjen (Ingeburg) Evjen, parents of the subject of this sketch, were born in Norway, where they followed farming for a living. The children born to this marriage were: Louisa, Andrew, Regina, Ragehild, Chris, Christian and John.

Chris Evjen was united in marriage, May 27, 1887, with Johannah M. Hexum, daughter of Martin Hexum, to which union the following children have been born: Ida, Carl, Minnie, Alta, Otto (deceased), Otto II, Elmer (deceased), Elmer II and Mary.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Evjen hold the respect and admiration of a large number of friends and acquaintances at Carlisle and the surrounding territory, where their success has been earned. Mrs. Evjen has been school clerk of this district for fourteen years. Mr. Evjen is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America, and is also a member of Lodge No. 59, Independent Order of Odd Fellows, at Fergus Falls. Both Mr. and Mrs. Evjen are members of the Norwegian Lutheran church.

OLE T. NYHUS.

One of the pioneers among the merchants of Otter Tail county is Ole T. Nyhus, who, in the early days of the town of Vining, established a general merchandise store and took an important part in the building up of business interests and the general welfare of the locality. Mr. Nyhus has been a successful storekeeper through a period of many years and a man whose citizenship has been of permanent good to the county and one who today is prominent in the public affairs of the town and vicinity.

Ole T. Nyhus was born at Rengerike, Norway, on August 22, 1859, the son of Truls and Christi (Knutsen) Nyhus, both of whom were born in Norway, where the mother lived until her death, in 1885, after which the father, Truls Nyhus, in 1886, came to America and joined a son, Sivert, of Henning township, Otter Tail county. In his native land Truls Nyhus was a small farmer, who cultivated well his limited acreage. To Truls and Christi Nyhus were born the following children: Knut, who is a retired farmer of Henning township; Ole T., the subject of this sketch; Sivert, who lives on a farm in Henning township; Even, who died in Norway, in 1885; Inga, who married Knut Nyhus, and who lives near Bemidji, Minnesota, and Hans, who is a farmer of Leaf Lake township.

Ole T. Nyhus, following his education in the public schools of Norway, worked at general farm duties until 1881, when he came to America and settled at Faribault, Minnesota, reaching that place on June 10, 1881. During the spring of 1882 Mr. Nyhus came to Otter Tail county and

worked on the farms in this community for the next five years. In 1887 he established a general merchandise store in Vining, on a site next to that which he now occupies. When he organized his business, Ole T. Nyhus built for his storeroom a rude wooden structure which served until the year 1898, and then he erected a brick-veneered building, in size twenty-six by seventy-two feet, where he now conducts his business with a stock valued at from ten to twelve thousand dollars.

Ole T. Nyhus established his business in partnership with Knut Uggen, who, in the year 1887, sold his interest to A. T. Lund, who continued in the conduct of the store with Ole T. Nyhus until the year 1908, when Mr. Lund died and his son, Oscar Lund, succeeded his father, in a firm under the name of Nyhus & Lund. This company is one of the oldest in the entire county, its senior member, Mr. Nyhus, being the oldest merchant in the town of Vining, Minnesota. The firm of Nyhus & Lund is not only a thorough success, with its thriving merchandise business, but the enterprising proprietors have enlarged the scope of their business dealings and have added a real-estate department which is consummating some of the large deals in real estate of the locality. In addition to their regular stock, this firm has acquired a farm of two hundred and forty acres of land in Folden township.

In politics, Ole T. Nyhus is a Republican and as a member of this party he has been elected to and served well on the town council, and also has been the occupant of the office of president of the village board. Mr. Nyhus is a leading member of the Norwegian Lutheran church at Vining and he is affiliated with the organization of the Sons of Norway. In private life Ole T. Nyhus has filled his place competently and graciously and he is recognized as one of the strong elements in the active life of Vining, and of Otter Tail county. Ole T. Nyhus has never married.

ANTON B. TRANA.

Without the opportunity for educational advantages, and denied special training for business, Anton B. Trana was able to apply the determined and persevering nature of the native Norwegian and rise to a prominent place in the public life of his community and to win the respect and esteem of his fellow citizens and associates. The life of Anton B. Trana is representative of a type which has done much for Otter Tail county, and he is a man whom the residents delight in honoring.

Anton B. Trana was born near Stenkjer, Norway, on October 28, 1874, the son of Rasmus and Johanna Trana, both natives of Norway, in which land they lived and were married. In 1882 they came to America and settled in Leaf Mountain township, Otter Tail county, where, in 1883,

Rasmus Trana, took up a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres. The land was covered with timber, which Rasmus Trana proceeded to clear, during which time he and his family lived in a "cellar," later building a substantial house, a place where he lived until his death, in 1893. Johanna Trana survived her husband and lives at Henning, she now being seventy-seven years of age. Rasmus Trana was of a quiet and retiring disposition. He was a member of the Norwegian Lutheran church, a congregation with which his widow now worships. To Rasmus and Johanna Trana were born the following children: John R., who is a farmer near Plaza, North Dakota; Martin, who conducts a feed-mill at Almora, Minnesota; Johan, a United States mail rural deliveryman at Henning, Minnesota; Albert, who is the proprietor of a restaurant at Almora; Mary, who married Iver E. Johnson, and lives at Norman, Washington; Anton B., the subject of this sketch; Richard, who died at Missoula, Montana, in 1903; and Gina, who married O. M. Trana, and lives at Colfax, North Dakota.

Anton B. Trana received but little education as a result of poor educational facilities in the vicinity of his childhood home, and therefore Mr. Trana is largely a self-taught man. During his life Anton B. Trana has engaged in various lines of endeavor, among which was a position as grain buyer for the Andrews Grain Company, of Minneapolis, while he lived at Vining, Minnesota, from 1905 to 1915, when he was made the agent of the Dower Lumber Company, at Vining, a line of work in which he is yet engaged. In 1907 Anton B. Trana established a confectionery store at Vining, a business which he conducted until July, 1915, when he disposed of his interest in this business. During the administration of President Roosevelt, Mr. Trana was honored by his appointment to the office of postmaster at Vining, an office which he served with dignity and with efficiency for eight years. In political affiliation, Anton B. Trana is a Republican.

On May 5, 1903, Anton B. Trana was married to Julia Johnson, who was born at Fergus Falls, Minnesota, the daughter of John S. Johnson and wife, who were early settlers in Otter Tail county. Mrs. Julia (Johnson) Trana died on January 29, 1912. To this union no children were born. On June 10, 1914, Mr. Trana was married, secondly, to Lydia Peterson, who was born at Fergus Falls, Minnesota, the daughter of Nels Peterson and wife, Nels Peterson being one of the earliest settlers of the community. To the marriage of Anton and Lydia (Peterson) Trana was born one son, Howard, who was born on June 13, 1915.

Anton B. Trana is among the men who have done great things for Otter Tail county and for the town of Vining, a man who has the confidence of all and one who, with his wife, occupies a conspicuous place in the various walks of life in the locality.

FRANK FJESTAD.

Among the prominent citizens of Carlisle township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, and one of its most successful farmers, is Frank Fjestad, who was born in Norway, November 12, 1847, and who is the son of Erik Haug and Tore P. Fjeld.

Mr. Fjestad's parents were farmers in Norway and reared a family of twelve children. They spent all of their lives in their native land. Frank Fjestad was educated in the common schools of Norway and in June, 1867, came to America. From June to December, 1867, Mr. Fjestad lived in La Crosse, Wisconsin, and from La Crosse he emigrated to the state of Texas, where he remained a year and one-half, working for a gardener. He returned to La Crosse and then moved to Fillmore county, Minnesota, but remained there scarcely a week, when, in 1869, he moved to Carlisle township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, homesteading one hundred and sixty acres, the farm upon which he now lives. The land was a barren waste at that time and there was not even a tree standing on the entire farm.

Mr. Fjestad has erected all of the buildings and has made all of the improvements upon the land, as well as planted all of the trees. He has done most of the improving with his own hands. When Mr. Fjestad started in life he had only fifty dollars, one cow and a pair of steers. Today he owns nine hundred and ninety acres of land, all of which is well improved, besides many thousand dollars' worth of personal property. Shortly after he settled on his claim, he started freighting for the government and the first year hauled freight from St. Cloud to the forts. Later he hauled freight from Benson and was employed in this business altogether during a period of three years.

Later, Mr. Fjestad hauled flour from Fergus Falls to all surrounding points, including Morehead. Subsequently, however, he engaged in farming, and his life in these early days was a hard struggle, as his farm was far from a railroad. It was thirty-five miles to the postoffice and sixty miles to mill. Nevertheless, Mr. Fjestad prospered from year to year and, as the years wore on, gradually accumulated more and more land and added to his possessions.

In 1872 Frank Fjestad was married to Taaline P. Spaberg, who was born on May 5, 1875, in Norway. To them have been born ten children: Edward F., who was born on November 18, 1873; Peter F., October 22, 1875; Clara F., deceased, December 16, 1877; Theodore F., January 5, 1879, died in infancy; Thea F., October 18, 1881; Ellen F., deceased, October 28, 1883; Theodore Alfred, December 20, 1886; Inga Marie, May 17, 1889; Lem, May 26, 1893; and Oscar Ferdinand, December 5, 1895.

Mr. and Mrs. Fjestad and all of the members of their family are identified with the Norwegian Lutheran church in Carlisle township. Mr. Fjestad is a Republican in politics. He has served as township trustee and has been treasurer of the township since its organization. For many years he was a school director and is now treasurer of the school board. He is also treasurer of the Farmers Elevator Company at Carlisle.

There is no better-known citizen in Carlisle township and, in fact, in the adjoining townships than Frank Fjestad. No man has taken a more prominent part in public affairs than he and no man is more capable naturally of aspiring to the position of leadership than the subject of this sketch.

HANS O. LARSON.

Hans O. Larson, who is conducting a successful mercantile business at Battle Lake, Minnesota, where he is a member of the firm of O. C. Nelson & Company, is a native of Goodhue county, Minnesota, born there on September 9, 1869.

Mr. Larson is a son of Ole and Catharine (Hansen) Larson, natives of Norway, the former of whom was born on January 13, 1841, and the latter on November 12, 1840. Ole Larson and family emigrated to America in 1867, settling first in Goodhue county, Minnesota, and in 1870 they removed to Otter Tail county, taking a homestead in Clitherall township. They also owned forty acres of land in Sverdrup township. They were the parents of three children, Hans O., Lauris and Minnie, the last named being the wife of Alfred Okeson, of North Dakota. Ole Larson and all his family are devout members of the Free Lutheran church.

Hans O. Larson was reared in Otter Tail county, Minnesota, and received his education in the public schools of his home township. He lived on his father's homestead farm until he reached the age of eighteen years, when he was employed as a clerk by Mr. Albertsen, of Battle Lake, with whom he remained for seven years. He then entered the employ of O. C. Nelson, and after eight years of service became a member of the firm, which was organized in 1907.

Hans O. Larson was first married, in 1892, to Bertha Andersen, who was born in Norway in 1872, the daughter of Alfred Andersen. After her mother's death, in Norway, Bertha Andersen came with her father to Otter Tail county, Minnesota, in 1879, and located in Tordenskjold township. Alfred Andersen now lives in North Dakota. Hans O. Larson and his first wife were the parents of two children, Oliver Alexander and Leonard Morgan. The mother of these children died in 1899, and on September 6, 1911, Mr. Larson was married to Martha Scott, who was born in Clitherall township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, a daughter of Andrew and Anne

(Julius) Scott, both of whom were natives of Denmark, who emigrated to America and settled in Otter Tail county. Mrs. Martha Larson's mother died in 1914, while her father still lives on his farm in Clitherall township.

Mr. and Mrs. Larson and family are members of the Free Lutheran church, and take an active interest in the affairs of the church. Mr. Larson has served three years as a member of the town council at Battle Lake. He is a Republican, and takes considerable interest in local and national political affairs.

JOHN KJER.

The gentleman whose name appears above, although a native of Wisconsin, is of Norwegian lineage, and it is with a certain degree of pleasure and satisfaction that a briefly outlined biographical sketch is here presented for perusal, and also as a matter of future reference for the progeny which he leaves behind.

John Kjer, farmer, of Fergus Falls, Carlisle township, Otter Tail county, was born on August 28, 1864, in Portage county, Wisconsin, and is the son of Goren and Martha Kjer. His education was obtained at the public schools of his native county, after which he was employed with his father on the farm until twenty-one years of age, when he began farming for himself on the place which he still owns in Carlisle township, where he resided until 1896, when he moved to South Dakota and took up a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres, in which venture he was fairly successful. In 1909 Mr. Kjer sold his farm in South Dakota and moved back to his home in Carlisle township, Otter Tail county, which he has improved with substantial buildings, and where he carries on general farming and stock raising. Politically, he has always given his support to the Republican party, but has never sought public office.

Goren and Martha Kjer, parents of the subject of this sketch, were both born in Norway, where Mr. Kjer as a young man was a day laborer, coming later to America and settling in Portage county, Wisconsin, where he took up a homestead. During the summer before the Great Northern railroad was built through Fergus Falls, he came to Otter Tail county and bought two hundred acres in Carlisle township, to which he afterward added one hundred and twenty acres more, where he spent the remainder of his life in agricultural pursuits. Mr. and Mrs. Kjer were the parents of nine children. Politically, Goren Kjer was a Republican, and in religion, he belonged to the Norwegian Lutheran church.

John Kjer was united in marriage, in 1898, with Mary Arlandson, by whom he has had three children: Edward, John and Myrtle.

Mr. Kjer is a man of upright character, and his splendid farm, which he keeps to a high standard, is one of the attractive places of Carlisle township.

NICOLAI O. FIELD.

Nicolai O. Field, a well-known citizen of Fergus Falls, Minnesota, who is engaged in the postal service at Olympia, Washington, is a native of Carlisle, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, where he was born on October 22, 1874.

Mr. Field is the son of Ole N. and Anne (Thorpe) Field, and the grandson of Nels Fjeld, as the name was spelled in Norway. Ole N. Field emigrated to America in 1868 and immediately thereafter came west to Fillmore county, from which place, in 1870, he moved to Carlisle, Otter Tail county. Here he took a homestead and lived until his death. There were three children in the family, two of whom are living: Peter O., of Frazee, Minnesota, a well-known citizen, merchant and mayor of the city; and Nicolai O., who is clerk in the postoffice in Olympia, Washington.

The father of Peter O. and Nicolai O. Field died in 1888, and Nicolai worked at anything he could turn his hand to until 1903, when he moved to Olympia, Washington, where he is now engaged as a clerk in the postoffice. He began in the postal service in 1906.

By his marriage to Anna Holman, the daughter of Mrs. M. Benson, of Verndale, Minnesota, Nicolai O. Field has one daughter.

Mr. Field is a member of the Elks, the Foresters of America and Woodmen of the World. He is a member of the Lutheran church.

HENRY COLBJORNSEN.

Henry Colbjornsen, well-known farmer and stock raiser, of St. Olaf township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, was born in the city of Chicago, on November 8, 1868, the son of Colbjorn and Jennie (Holverson) Colbjornsen, who were natives of Norway, where they lived until the year 1864, they at that time emigrating to America and after landing at New York City they went immediately to the city of Chicago, where they lived for about five years and then moved to Otter Tail county, in the year 1870, locating on a farm which Colbjorn Colbjornsen secured in Clitherall township. Through pioneer days, with hardships and trials, this pioneer citizen and farmer succeeded in those things which he attempted. He sold his farm in 1913 and moved to North Dakota. In the family of Colbjorn and Jennie Colbjornsen were ten children.

Henry Colbjornsen received his education in the common schools of Clitherall township, Otter Tail county, after which he worked on the farm of his father until the year 1891, when he purchased his present farm of one hundred and sixty acres of land in St. Olaf township, Otter Tail county, where he is successfully and extensively engaged in general agricultural pursuits. In addition to his farm duties, Henry Colbjornsen is engaged in the operation of a threshing machine throughout the township and vicinity.

In 1890 Henry Colbjornsen was married to Lena Harness, and to this marriage have been born two children, Louisa and Effie.

Politically, Mr. Colbjornsen is affiliated with the Republican party, and while he has not taken any especial part in the political or official life of the community, he is a citizen who is valued for his part and his efforts in the ranks of private citizenship and for his interest in the promotion of the general welfare of the community where he lives.

S. A. SWANSON.

One of the leading druggists of Otter Tail county, Minnesota, and one of its best-known citizens, is S. A. Swanson, a native of Fergus Falls, where he was born on July 10, 1873.

S. A. Swanson is the son of John and Selma (Jensen) Swanson, who were natives of the province of Swalland, Sweden, and who came to America in 1870. Subsequently, John Swanson arrived at Benson, Minnesota, which was then the terminal of the Great Northern railway, and from there walked to Fergus Falls, which was at that time a straggling village, containing only a few people who lived in log shanties. Upon arriving in Fergus Falls, John Swanson homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of land in Western township, which he cleared and upon which he erected buildings. Very soon after coming to the county Mr. Swanson was married and lived on the homestead farm for eight or nine years, after which he moved to Amor township and obtained possession of three hundred and twenty acres of land, which he proceeded to clear and improve. After living upon the farm until 1911 he moved to Fergus Falls and retired, but still owns the Amor township land. He was a general farmer and stockman during his active career and served in many township offices. He is a staunch Republican. John Swanson and wife are members of the Lutheran church and he was one of the founders of the Amor congregation.

Mr. and Mrs. John Swanson are the parents of six children, three sons and three daughters, of whom S. A. is the eldest; Carl is a painter and paper-hanger of Fergus Falls; Oscar is station agent at Detroit, Minnesota; Lydia, who married Will Ekman, lives on the farm in Amor township;

Huldah is a stenographer in the court house at Fergus Falls; and Olga is a stenographer in the county auditor's office at Fergus Falls.

Educated in the public schools of Amor township and in the academy at Minneapolis, S. A. Swanson came to Battle Lake, Minnesota, in 1891 and was employed by Dr. M. S. Jones in his drug store for four or five years. Afterward he attended the Minneapolis Institute of Pharmacy and was graduated with the class of 1900. Upon completing his pharmaceutical education, he worked for Doctor Jones until 1914, when he purchased the drug store, which is the only drug store in Battle Lake. Naturally, Mr. Swanson has a large and growing patronage and business. The stock would invoice at the present time at about forty-five hundred dollars.

In 1904 S. A. Swanson was married to Huldah Lindquist, a native of Vasa, which is situated near Red Wing, Minnesota. Mrs. Swanson is the daughter of N. P. Lindquist. To Mr. and Mrs. Swanson has been born one son, Robert, who was born on December 5, 1906.

S. A. Swanson has long been prominent in the fraternal circles of this county. He is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, the Modern Woodmen of America and the United Order of Workmen. Mr. Swanson votes the Republican ticket, but has never taken a special part in politics.

ALBERT G. WHITSON.

Numbered among those who have stood representative of marked progressiveness and civic loyalty in Fergus Falls and who have contributed a large share to the industrial and civic advancement of the community is Albert Whitson, who is one of the prominent business men in that section of Minnesota in which he lives. In his chosen field of endeavor he has accomplished most valuable results through his earnest and well-directed business policies. A man of recognized ability and judgment, he is regarded as an authority on questions of civic importance, and as a consequence of his admirable traits of character has reached a position of distinction in his chosen field of industry.

Albert G. Whitson was born near Smith Falls, Canada, on April 18, 1867, and is a son of John and Jane (Lawson) Whitson, representatives of an honored family, known in Minnesota for almost fifty years. His father was a farmer and miller by vocation and the family were in modest financial circumstances during the early years of the subject of this sketch. The parents left Canada in 1868 and moved to Granville Mills, Minnesota, where the father engaged in the milling business for ten years. The family then moved to Owatonna, Minnesota, where Mr. Whitson returned to the occupation of farming, until the year 1884. In the spring of that year he

came to Otter Tail county and settled in Aastad, six miles from Fergus Falls. Shortly after his arrival in that township John Whitson was made foreman of the waterworks, which was in the course of building at that time.

As a boy Albert Whitson received his educational advantages in the schools of Northfield and Owatonna. The career of the subject of this sketch has been one of various occupations, the first of which was railroad-ing. Later he engaged in farming in Orwell and the wide experience gained in these two fields proved to be extremely valuable to him later in life. In 1904 he moved to Fergus Falls and engaged in the livery business. Later he was associated with a Mr. Elliot, and took over the control of the ice plant on Stanton avenue. They sold out to John W. Campbell in July, 1912.

The business of Elliott & Whitson was opened in the same year, when they bought out F. H. Gary, dealer in coal, lime and cement. Since that time the firm of Elliott & Whitson has been doing an unusually successful business. In his chosen field of work, Mr. Whitson has made a large circle of friends, his ability and thorough business methods have won for him a place of distinction.

The marriage of Albert Whitson to Mary Elliott, the daughter of John Elliott, was solemnized on January 9, 1890. They are the parents of the following children: Elsie and Emilie, who are teaching school at Western; George and Sidney, who are at home with their parents. In fraternal affairs Mr. Whitson has always taken an active interest. He is a member of the Odd Fellows lodge and the Modern Woodmen of America. In his political relations he is affiliated with the Republican party.

PETER LEIN.

One who has made a record of large and numerous accomplishment in connection with the practical affairs of life is Peter Lein, who is recognized as one of the most enterprising, resourceful and influential business men of his community. His life has been such as to entitle him to a place of distinction and unqualified public esteem. Through his own ability and efforts he has won success and has given his share to community development and prosperity.

Peter Lein was born in 1856, in Trondhjem, Norway, and is the son of Peter and Barret (Peterson) Lein, both of whom are deceased. His father died in 1905 and her mother in 1862. When the subject of this sketch was just twenty-four years old he came to America, in March, 1880. He landed at Halifax and went by train to Montreal, where he remained a month. From there he went to Winnipeg, where he was employed for two

years by a railroad company during its period of construction. His business career was initiated in 1882, when he came to Fergus Falls and, with his brother, operated a butcher shop for a year. His next field of business activity was in the grocery store owned by Nels Elden, where for five years he was employed as an assistant. During his engagement in business there he was married to Mary Ann Sten, a native of Norway, and a woman of much personal charm.

In the fall of 1888 Mr. Lein began an independent career as manager of the grocery which he now owns. A man of distinctive initiative and progressive ideas, he is a valued member of the community in which he lives. He is extremely popular with all of his customers, whom he endeavors to please to the best of his ability. His diligence in business is equaled only by his devotion to his family, which includes his wife and four children. His eldest son, Bennie, is assistant cashier of the Scandia Bank. The other children are Emil, who is married and living in Minneapolis; Conrad, a graduate of the Naval Academy at Annapolis, and Laura.

Aside from his business interests, Mr. Lein has always been interested in societies that promote good fellowship. He is a member of the Sons of Norway and of the Odd Fellows.

FRANK H. STRAUB.

One of the substantial business men of Fergus Falls, Minnesota, the proprietor of a popular jewelry store of this city and a man who is interested in everything which, in any way, might promote the best interests of his home city, is Frank H. Straub.

Frank H. Straub was born in 1857 at Lockport, Michigan, a town which is now called Three Rivers. His parents were William and Harriet (Shomaker) Straub, the former of whom was a carriage maker by trade, but who, during the greater part of his life, was engaged in the mercantile business. The family emigrated to Minnesota in 1863 and located at Winnebago, an Indian agency near Waseca. In 1865, two years later, the family moved to Morristown, in Rice county, where the father engaged in carriage making. Three years later the family moved to Faribault, Minnesota, and there Mr. Straub embarked in the mercantile business, after which he moved to Fergus Falls and engaged in the real-estate business. He died in this city in 1886. His wife survived him many years, passing away in 1910.

Frank H. Straub obtained his early education at Faribault, Minnesota, and grew to manhood in this state. When he was old enough he clerked in a jewelry store and later operated a store in Northfield for Hunter & Son.

In 1880 Mr. Straub moved to Groton, South Dakota, where he homesteaded a tract of land, which he commuted in 1882. In the fall of the same year he came to Fergus Falls and, in partnership with a Mr. Hunt, engaged in the jewelry business. Six years later Mr. Straub bought Mr. Hunt's interest and has since conducted the business alone.

By his marriage to Katie A. Jordan, a native of Maine and a descendant of the Jordans who came over to America from England, Frank H. Straub has six children, Katherine, who was born in Fergus Falls, Minnesota, in 1892, and died at the age of five and one-half years; Francis, 1894, and died February 1, 1897; Winnifred, November, 1897; Lloyd J., 1899; Margaret L., July, 1901; and William F., 1904.

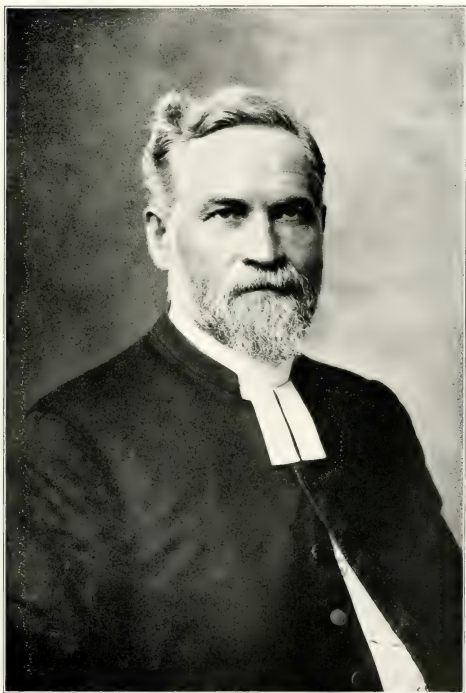
Frank H. Straub was a prominent and useful member of the city council at the time when the last city charter was adopted. At the present time he is one of the water and light commissioners of Fergus Falls. Mr. Straub is a member of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, the Ancient Order of United Workmen, the Modern Woodmen of America and the Knights of Pythias.

REV. JAMES MOODY.

The Rev. James Moody, professor in charge of Northwestern College and pastor of the Swedish Lutheran church at Fergus Falls, this county, is a man who has attained notable distinction in educational and ministerial work. He is one of the most distinguished educators now residing in Otter Tail county and his character, one of signal exaltation and purity of purpose, is widely admired by the people of this county.

Born in Lekvatten, Vermland, Sweden, the Rev. Mr. Moody is the son of Peter and Ingeborg (Anderson) Moody, who with their family emigrated to America in 1864, proceeding to Ft. Snelling, by the way of Quebec, Canada. From Ft. Snelling the family removed to Carver county, where they rented a farm and remained until after the close of the Civil War, after which they removed to Moores Prairie, now Cokato, and homesteaded land. There the father built a log house and was engaged in farming until his death in 1904.

James Moody received his early schooling in the district schools of this state and at the Swedish-American College at St. Peter. He was a student at the latter institution for three years and then spent six years at Augustana College and Theological Seminary, Rock Island, Illinois. After his ordination, the Rev. Mr. Moody received his first charge at Crookston and St. Hilaire, where he remained for eight years. From Crookston and St. Hilaire he was transferred to Battle Lake, in Otter Tail county, where he remained for ten years. In 1906 the Rev. James Moody was transferred



REV. JAMES MOODY.

to Fergus Falls, as professor in charge of Northwestern College and as pastor of the Swedish Evangelical Lutheran church, over which he is still presiding pastor. His influence in Fergus Falls and vicinity has been a large factor in the spiritual and moral awakening of the community, his personality and kindly Christian leadership proving a most wholesome factor here among the people with whom he has labored.

The Reverend Mr. Moody married Augusta W. Johnson, who has borne him five children, James R., Huldah V., Ruth A., Edna A., and Mildred T. The Moody family are popular in the social life of Fergus Falls and are a credit to their worthy parents, who have reared them in the love of the Christian religion and in the principles of righteous and noble living.

C. MURRY HUNT.

One of the prosperous and long-standing industries of Fergus Falls, Minnesota, is the cigar manufacturing business operated under the name of Hunt Brothers, which is owned by C. Murry Hunt.

C. Murry Hunt was born on July 11, 1868, at Manchester, Iowa, and is the son of Walter G. and Susan E. (Blood) Hunt. The former was the son of David Hunt, who was born near Buffalo, New York. Walter G. Hunt was born on August 8, 1843, in Harmony, Chautauqua county, New York. When the Civil War began he was living in Delavan, Wisconsin. He enlisted on August 12, 1862, in Company D, Twenty-second Regiment, Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, and saw active service during the war. He was honorably discharged on June 28, 1865, at Milwaukee. In September, 1865, he removed to Manchester, Iowa, where he worked as a farmer and where he was married to Susan E. Blood. To this happy marriage there were born three children, Clarence M., Frank L. and Elizabeth.

The family removed to Nora Springs, Iowa, and in the spring of 1879 emigrated to Fergus Falls, Minnesota. In the spring of 1879 they took a homestead in Star Lake township, and lived there for three years, when they returned to Fergus Falls, where they still live.

When he was sixteen years old, C. Murry Hunt began life on his own responsibility. For a few years he was employed at various kinds of work, anything which he could find to do. Subsequently he learned the cigarmaker's trade from Alexander Van Praag, and was employed by Mr. Van Praag for a period of ten years. In December, 1892, Mr. Hunt engaged in the manufacture of cigars on his own account under the name of Hunt Brothers. The name is still in use, although C. M. Hunt owns the business.

Mr. Hunt manufactures several brands of cigars, among which are the
(9b)

"Hunt Imperial," "Hunt Imperial, Jr.," "Hunt's Commander," "Hunt's Havana Special," "Ralph Emerson," "Fergus, Jr.," "Factory Smoker," and "662." The Hunt factory is an attractive building constructed of brick and situated on Lincoln avenue, west. Mr. Hunt employs thirty-five men. His trade is confined mostly to Minnesota, North and South Dakota.

Some years ago C. Murry Hunt was married to Etta M. Brown, a native of Illinois, by whom he has had one son, Clarence L., born on October 7, 1893. Clarence L. Hunt is employed in his father's office.

Mr. Hunt is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, the Modern Woodmen of America, the Knights of Maccabees, Knights of Pythias, the Modern Samaritans, and the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks.

J. V. MATTHEWS.

J. V. Matthews, a successful business man and a highly-respected citizen of Fergus Falls, Minnesota, who is engaged in the livery business and who operates a feed and sale stable in this city, is a native of the town of McHenry, in McHenry county, Illinois, where he was born in 1856.

Mr. Matthews is the son of John Warren and Mary (Scanlan) Matthews, the former of whom was born in New York state and the latter was born in Canada. In 1857 the family emigrated to Lake City, Minnesota, making the latter part of the journey up the Mississippi river in the steamer "Milwaukee." J. V. Matthews remembers distinctly the boat as she plied up and down the river, it being identified at that time by two large gilt globes between her smokestacks. In Lake City, Minnesota, Mr. Matthews' father was engaged in the livery and sales business in the days before the railroads, and also operated a mail stage line between Winona and Red Wing.

Mr. Matthews, when a mere lad, attended the first school established in Lake City, Minnesota. The school eventually became a normal school. After growing to manhood, Mr. Matthews learned the barber's trade, which he followed for thirty years, working in Winnebago City, Blue Earth and Devil's Lake, North Dakota. In May, 1883, he came to Fergus Falls and engaged in the barber business, which he followed until 1905, when he purchased the livery business owned by George G. Matthews, his brother.

J. V. Matthews was married to Mary R. Smith, the daughter of John and Mary Smith. They have no children.

Mr. Matthews is a member of Corner Stone Lodge No. 99, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, the Knights of Pythias, the Modern Woodmen of America, and the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks.

OLE M. HEXUM.

The subject of this biographical sketch is descended from a fine old family of Norway, and his parents came to America many years ago. Mr. Hexum stands out prominently as one of the rising farmers in his locality, where he has demonstrated strong individuality and ability in his chosen vocation.

Ole M. Hexum, farmer, of Carlisle, Otter Tail county, was born on September 18, 1876, on the old homestead in Carlisle township, and is a son of Martin H. Hexum and his wife, Marit (Gratts) Hexum. His education was obtained at the public schools of Otter Tail county, after which he was trained along agricultural lines under his father's instruction. He has farmed on the home place since 1901, doing general farming.

A biographical sketch of Martin H. Hexum is presented elsewhere in this volume.

Ole M. Hexum was united in marriage, first, with Clara Fjestad, who was born on December 16, 1877, and died on July 28, 1904, and by whom he had two children, Morris F. and Thoralf M. Mr. Hexum was married, secondly, to Matilda Linner, who was born on January 25, 1886, which union has been blest with the following children: Myrtle, Olga and Martin.

Mr. Hexum has won an enviable popularity as one of the younger agriculturists of Carlisle township, where he takes an active part in the affairs of the community, doing his part in advancing the interests of the public. He is a man of sterling qualities, practicing the principles of scrupulous honesty in all his business dealings.

GEORGE CAMPBELL.

The people of Fergus Falls, Minnesota, consume annually a great deal of ice cream, most of which is made by the Campbell firm, who not only manufacture ice cream, but also soft drinks, under the firm name of the Fergus Ice Cream Company.

George Campbell, who, with his father, Alexander Campbell, is engaged in the manufacture of ice cream and soft drinks at Fergus Falls, was born in Saratoga township, Winona county, Minnesota, in 1872. He is the son of Alexander and Mary (Coulter) Campbell, the former of whom was a farmer for many years, but is now in partnership with his son in Fergus Falls.

After having remained on the home farm until he was twenty seven years old, George Campbell moved to Menahga, about six miles from Wadena, and was engaged there in farming for about six years. Subsequently, however, he moved to Wadena and remained for eighteen months.

coming finally to Fergus Falls in 1909. Immediately thereafter Mr. Campbell engaged in the manufacture of ice cream, to which he has added milk, cream and butter, and supplies most of the grocers of Fergus Falls daily. He also has a large trade outside of Fergus Falls. Mr. Campbell has a model plant and has built up a nice business for the short time during which he has been located in this county. On account of his personality and the superiority of his products, his business is growing day by day and month by month.

Mr. Campbell's wife, before her marriage, was Gertrude I. Bradt, who was born in Fremont township, Winona county, Minnesota. Mr. and Mrs. Campbell have one son, Lawrence, who was born on May 1, 1901.

George Campbell is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks. He is highly respected by the people of Fergus Falls and vicinity.

JUSTUS PICKIT.

Among the well-known merchants of Fergus Falls, Minnesota, and among the pioneer citizens who belong to a past generation, was the late Justus Pickit, a prominent citizen of Otter Tail county for forty years, who died on June 7, 1913.

The late Justus Pickit was born in Edwards, New York, on July 2, 1837, and spent his boyhood and early manhood in the Empire state. When the Civil War broke out he enlisted in the Ninety-second Regiment, New York Volunteer Infantry. After the war, in 1869, he came west to St. Cloud, Minnesota, where he engaged in the mercantile business in partnership with J. B. Abbott.

In 1871 Mr. Pickit came to Fergus Falls, Minnesota, and erected a frame building on the present site of the Scandia Land Company, at the corner of Lincoln and Mill streets, where he had a general mercantile store.

Mr. Pickit served as postmaster of Fergus Falls for four years under the administration of the late President Harrison, and during his advancing years was retired from business. He lived quietly in the later years of his life. He took a prominent part in the progress and development of Fergus Falls and was very successful as a business man, especially as a merchant.

By his marriage, in Herman, New York, to Anna M. Peck, a native of Fowler, New York, the daughter of Daniel and Martha (Fuller) Peck, there were born four sons: Horace E., who lives in Fergus Falls; Leslie J., who lives in Los Angeles, California, who married Effie Straub; Robert C., who is employed in the auditor's office at St. Paul, and Ralph E., of Los Angeles, California. Mr. and Mrs. Leslie J. Pickit have four children. Horace C. married Mamie Snyder, and they have an adopted daughter,

Gertrude. Ralph E. married Carrie Cotterell, and they have no children. Mrs. Justus Pickit's father was for many years connected with the Fullerville Iron Works, at Fullerville, New York.

Mr. and Mrs. Pickit reared a family of splendid children, who in the various communities where they live are leading honorable and useful lives and who are a credit not only to their parents, but to the community where they spent the earliest years of their lives.

A. M. ANDERSON.

It is a difficult task to do justice to any individual within the limited space accorded in a volume of this character, where so many must be given the credit which they have honestly and deservedly earned. To Mr. Anderson, however, especial honor is due because of the struggle through many hardships through which he has passed, and the eminent financial success which he has achieved, thus enabling him to pass the remaining years of his life in comfort.

A. M. Anderson, farmer, Fergus Falls, Carlisle township, Otter Tail county, was born on January 8, 1856, in Norway, and is a son of Michael and Julia (Olson) Anderson. He came with his parents to America in 1861, locating in Allamakee county, Iowa. His opportunities for receiving an education were limited, attending for a short period at the public schools in Iowa, and about the same length of time in Minnesota. As a young man it was always necessary for him to work very hard, and in 1885 he began farming for himself on his father's farm in Martin county, Minnesota, which he afterward bought, and which he sold in 1902, coming to Carlisle township, Otter Tail county, where he bought a tract of two hundred and eighty acres, eighty of which he sold in 1913, and now owns two hundred acres, on which he has put all the buildings and other improvements. In addition to following general farming, Mr. Anderson conducts a dairy, and is a stockholder in the Fergus Falls Creamery. Politically, he is a strong Democrat, while his religious views are in accordance with those of the Norwegian Lutheran church, in which he takes a deep interest. He has put out a new orchard, and is considered a progressive farmer.

Michael and Julia (Olson) Anderson, parents of the subject of this sketch, were both born in Norway, the former coming to America as a day laborer, arriving at New York City in 1861, and going from there to Allamakee county, Iowa, where he bought a farm of eighty acres and lived until 1882, when he moved to Martin county, Minnesota, taking a homestead of eighty acres, where his wife died. Mr. Anderson then moved to Pine county, where he lived for a few years and then sold out, moving to

Wheeler, Wisconsin, where he died. This union was blest with but one son, A. M. Anderson. Politically, Mr. Anderson was a Republican, and in religion he belonged to the Norwegian Lutheran church.

A. M. Anderson was united in marriage, in 1880, with Elizabeth Knoff, daughter of Peter and Melena (Berg) Knoff. She was born on May 23, 1861, in Norway. Eleven children have been born to this union: Julia M., who became the wife of Edward Thompson, and is the mother of six children, Janice E., Marion E., Ruby E., Lila I., Palma V. and George Edwin; Christian, the second child of A. M. and Elizabeth Anderson, was united in marriage with Emma Paulson, which marriage has been blest with two children, Carlyle E. and Marlo; Albert T.; Emma P., who became the wife of Augustus Siems, and is the mother of two children, Delna L. and Arvid H.; Melvin O., Helmar, Carl L., Hazel M., Alma E., Howard E. and George D.

Mr. Anderson enjoys the reputation of being one of the industrious and thrifty agriculturists in his community, where he holds the high regard of all who know him.

NELS J. MORTENSEN.

One of the best-known retired citizens of Fergus Falls, Minnesota, is Nels J. Mortensen, who for many years was engaged in the retail drug business at Fergus Falls, but who has been living retired since 1912. Among his other interests Mr. Mortensen is identified with the manufacture of sash, doors and frames, in Fergus Falls, through the Fergus Falls Manufacturing Company.

Nels J. Mortensen was born on November 6, 1847, in Schleswig, Denmark, now a part of Germany. He is the son of Jens and Catherine Mortensen, the former of whom was a farmer.

Nels J. Mortensen served two years, from 1863 until the close of 1864, in the Danish-German War, after growing to manhood, and then learned the trade of a pharmacist. In the spring of 1872 he emigrated to America, coming to the United States by the way of Quebec, Canada. Subsequently, he settled in Steele county, Minnesota, where he remained for a few months and then came to Alexandria, Douglas county, Minnesota, where he found employment in the drug business. Mr. Mortensen remained in Alexandria for eighteen months and then moved to Fergus Falls in 1876.

He opened a drug store on his own account in 1876 and continued in business continuously until 1912, since which time he has been living practically retired.

Mr. Mortensen's wife, before her marriage, was Lottie C. Nelson, the daughter of Nels Nelson. She is a native of Alexandria, Minnesota, and

has borne her husband one daughter, who is now the wife of Dr. E. G. Bell, a well-known dentist of Fergus Falls. Doctor and Mrs. Bell have one daughter, Catherine.

Mr. Mortensen is a member of Corner Stone Lodge No. 99, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons. He is also a member of the Independent Order of Foresters.

HENRY TOMHAVE.

In a visit to the home of those of our pioneer settlers, who still make their homes in Minnesota, one would find many interesting facts concerning the experiences of ox team and other primitive modes of travel in the days when railroads were only anticipated luxury. It was during these trips from the East that some of the greatest hardships of pioneer life were experienced, and it is to those who were brave enough to face the many dangers of the wilderness period that much credit is due.

Henry Tomhave, farmer, Fergus Falls township, Otter Tail county, was born on September 11, 1845, in the province of Hanover, Germany, and is a son of John and Katherine (Bungar) Tomhave. He was educated at the public schools of Germany, and as a young man, came to America in 1866, landing at New York City, where he was obliged to work for six months in order to secure money with which to reach Minnesota. On reaching La Crosse, Wisconsin, the river was full of ice, and he did not possess enough money to pay stage fare, thus necessitating his remaining at that place and working on the railroad, finally reaching Red Wing, where he remained two years. In 1869, he came to Otter Tail county and establishing his farm of one hundred and sixty acres in the wilderness. He traveled from St. Paul to St. Cloud, walking all the way. There was not a building at Fergus Falls when he and his one companion arrived. They crossed the river at Fergus in a boat made of fence bark. This was in the spring, and they returned to Red Wing, coming back in the fall with an ox team, experiencing many struggles because of the lack of railroad facilities. They had no opportunity to market their grain without making long hauls, and all the buildings and improvements had to be put on the place.

Mr. Tomhave has become eminently prosperous, dividing his attention between general farming and stock raising. Politically, he gives his support to the Republican party, in the politics of which he has for a long time been actively interested, and is the present town treasurer, and has been district supervisor. Religiously, he is an earnest member of the German Lutheran church, to which he contributes liberally.

John and Katherine (Bungar) Tomhave, parents of the subject of this sketch, were both natives of Germany, from which country the father never

departed. The mother came to America and homesteaded one hundred and twenty acres in Otter Tail county near her son, Henry. She died in this county.

Henry Tomhave was united in marriage on December 26, 1872, with Anna Bradahoeft, daughter of Jacob Bradahoeft, by whom he has had five children, John H., Anna, Carl, Claus and Henry.

Mr. Tomhave bears the distinction of being a real pioneer, and has gained many warm and admiring friends throughout Otter Tail county, where he is well and prominently known.

KNUD H. BRANDVOLD.

Knud H. Brandvold, a retired citizen of Dalton, Minnesota, is one of the oldest and most highly respected citizens of Dalton and the man to whom all of the people of this thriving town refer as the real pioneer of the community.

Knud H. Brandvold, a native of Norway, was born on May 11, 1845, and is the son of Halvor Simonson and Kari Avleson. Mr. Brandvold's father died in Norway in 1848. He was a farmer by occupation and spent all of his life in his native country. Both he and his wife were members of the Norwegian Lutheran church. They were the parents of only two children, Knud H., the subject of this sketch, and Hannah M., who was born on July 5, 1848, and who married E. J. Berdall, of near Garretson, Minnehaha county, South Dakota. They have three children, John E., Carrie and Henry.

Knud H. Brandvold received a common-school education in Norway and, when a lad of fourteen years, began learning the shoemaker's trade. He worked at this trade until he was twenty-two years old and, in 1867, came to America, living for two years thereafter in Fillmore county, Minnesota. After two years, he moved to Goodhue county, Minnesota, and in 1871 came to Otter Tail county, Minnesota, where he has lived practically all of the time since.

Upon coming to Otter Tail county, Mr. Brandvold purchased the northwest quarter of section 12, in Tunuli township, a tract of one hundred and sixty acres, which, at the time, was little more than wild land. During the winter of 1883-1884, Mr. Brandvold went to Polk county, Minnesota, where he took a homestead and where he assisted in the organization of a township, which was given his name. A congregation of the Norwegian Lutheran church was also given his name. In the following spring, Mr. Brandvold came back to his home in Tunuli township. During his early days in this county, he was situated about thirty miles from a railroad.

In 1879, in partnership with Taral Olson, Mr. Brandvold established a store at Dalton. This partnership continued for six months, after which Mr. Brandvold continued for a time as the sole proprietor of the business. Later he took Ole Nelson into the business as a partner and this arrangement continued for four years. After Mr. Nelson retired, Mr. Brandvold conducted the store alone. He retired from business in 1903.

Mr. Brandvold was one of the organizers of the Farmers Grain & Lumber Company, of Dalton. In 1908 he sold his farm to his son-in-law, Senator Ole O. Sageng, who is one of the best-known citizens of Otter Tail county. Since 1908 Mr. and Mrs. Brandvold have lived in Dalton.

Knud H. Brandvold was married to Bertha K. Steien, who died in April, 1890. To this union were born three children, Halvor, Oliver and Kari. In July, 1892, Mr. Brandvold was married, secondly, to Maria L. Bakken.

Mr. and Mrs. Brandvold and family are members of the Norwegian Lutheran church. Mr. Brandvold has served as secretary of the congregation for a short time. For twelve years he was supervisor of his township, and for twenty-eight years was treasurer of the local school board. Knud H. Brandvold occupies a place in the hearts of his neighbors and fellow-citizens second to no other citizen in this part of Otter Tail county. He has well performed his duties as a public-spirited and useful citizen and today is accorded the distinction which belongs to such a man and such a citizen.

ESTEN THOMPSON.

Unconscious recognition of the true worth of a man who has made his opportunities and opened his own way through hardships and financial struggle is found in the ultimate conclusion of a well-rounded career. Mr. Thompson, whose name is mentioned above, has demonstrated a firmness of purpose in his chosen vocation that cannot but win the admiration of those familiar with his steadfast and thrifty methods.

Esten Thompson, farmer, Fergus Falls township, Otter Tail county, was born on September 29, 1856, at Trondkjem, Norway, and is a son of Bernt Thompson. His rudimentary education was obtained in Norway, and at the age of ten years he came to America with his parents, where he attended the public schools for a short time. When quite a young man, Mr. Thompson began farming for himself in Wilkin county, Minnesota, where he took up a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres, which he sold in 1903, and bought his present farm consisting of one hundred and ten acres, his time and attention being devoted to general farming. Mr. Thompson has put valuable improvements on his place, which, although not

one of the largest, is one of the best places in the township. He is a brother of Anton Thompson, whose name is mentioned elsewhere in this volume. Politically, he is a Republican, and in religion, a member of the Norwegian Lutheran church.

Esten Thompson was united in marriage with Christina Vold, by whom he has had eight children: Bernard, Rosa, Edwin, Inga, Albert, Ethel, Mary and Minnie.

Mr. Thompson is a gentleman of more than ordinary intelligence, and keeps well up with the times, and can honestly claim all the honor accorded him as a substantial and prosperous citizen.

LEWIS LOHMEIER.

Following down a long line of German ancestry, one finds the name of Lewis Lohmeier, a representative and influential agriculturist of Fergus Falls township. Mr. Lohmeier has followed the most approved methods in his rural vocation, and today owns a splendid tract of land in the above township, where he makes the breeding of fine stock one of his specialties.

Lewis Lohmeier, general farmer and stock breeder, Fergus Falls, Otter Tail county, was born on March 22, 1864, at Evansville, Indiana, and is a son of Henry and Charlotte (Held) Lohmeier. He was educated at the district schools of Fergus Falls township, and as a young man, began farming for himself on his mother's farm. In 1884 he bought his present homestead, consisting of one hundred and sixty acres, located in section 33, Fergus Falls township, which place he has owned ever since. In 1898 Mr. Lohmeier moved to where he now resides, and has since put many valuable improvements on the place, consisting of all new buildings, etc. In addition to general farming, he has made the breeding of fine stock one of his leading interests. Politically, he has always been a stanch Republican, while in religion, he belongs to the Lutheran church. Fraternally, his alliance is with the Modern Woodmen of America, and the Elks.

Henry and Charlotte (Held) Lohmeier, parents of the subject of this sketch, were both born in Germany, and came to America about 1850, locating first at Evansville, Indiana, and in 1856 Mr. Lohmeier moved with his family to Red Wing, Minnesota. In 1860 he came to Otter Tail county, where he bought a tract of six hundred and forty acres in Fergus Falls township, returning later to Red Wing, and finally, on June 15, 1872, he arrived at Fergus Falls with his family, where he spent the remainder of his life and where he conducted a brewery during the first three years of his residence. The children born to Mr. and Mrs. Lohmeier were as follows: Henry, Charles, Lewis, August, Rosetta, Mary, Maggie and Matilda.

Politically, Mr. Lohmeier was a Republican, and in religion his sympathies were with the German Lutheran church.

Lewis Lohmeier was united in marriage, in 1898, with Louise Zahn, daughter of August Zahn. She was born in Wisconsin. Two children have been born to this union, May and Eleanor.

Mr. Lohmeier is appreciated in his community for his genuine worth and high personal character. He is genial and unassuming in manner, and his friendship is held in high esteem throughout his township.

ALBERT DALLUGE.

The subject of this sketch is one of the versatile and broad-minded citizens of Otter Tail county, where he has established his family in a comfortable home, the foundation of American happiness, the country which he, like many others of his native land, has adopted as his permanent home. Unlike many of our rural citizens, Mr. Dalluge has never allowed his methods and habits to become fixed, or his ideas to follow a rut. He keeps himself informed as to what is going on in the outside world.

Albert Dalluge, farmer, Fergus Falls township, Otter Tail county, was born on August 3, 1869, in Germany, and is a son of Julius and Caroline (Oehlke) Dalluge. His education was received in Germany, coming alone to America in 1882. His first employment in this country was in a harvest field, after which he worked in the timber, and was later associated with his father on a farm. On March 18, 1914, Mr. Dalluge bought his present splendid farm, consisting of two hundred and forty-four acres, his special attention being directed to general farming and stock-raising. Prior to the purchase of his present homestead, he farmed with his father for nine years, and in 1903 he went to Brown county, Minnesota, where he owned one hundred and sixty acres, which he sold in 1913. Politically, Mr. Dalluge is a staunch Republican, while his religious sympathies are with the German Lutheran church.

Julius Dalluge, father of the subject of this sketch, was born on September 21, 1838, in Germany, and was united in marriage with Caroline Oehlke, who was also born in Germany. They came to America about 1883, locating in Blue Earth county, Minnesota, where they have since resided.

Albert Dalluge was united in marriage with Minnie Lehman, by whom he has had the following children: Walter, Eleanor (who became the wife of John Sorensen), Mahala, Paul and Clarence.

By his upright principles and his interest in the welfare of his fellow man, Mr. Dalluge is regarded as one of the worthy and honorable citizens, whose character is beyond question.

PETER AND MINNA GAST.

The worthy couple to a short sketch of whose joint career the attention of the reader is now directed, have for many years been counted among the representative citizens of Otter Tail county, Minnesota, and each of them are well known and highly esteemed. Mr. Gast has been one of the progressive farmers of his community and Mrs. Gast has made a reputation for herself as a most capable and painstaking nurse. She has in the course of many years, served in more than half of the best homes of the county and Fergus Falls and has in this way won many warm friends through her ready sympathy and helpfulness in their time of need.

Peter J. A. Gast was born in Schnierin, Germany, on April 28, 1847, son of Fritz and Maria (Willert) Gast, both natives of the same place. The death of the mother occurred in her native land, while the father after that emigrated to this country, joined his children and closed his life at Great Bend, North Dakota. Mr. Gast is the youngest of a family of three children, all boys, the other two both being engaged in farming near Great Bend, North Dakota. Mr. Gast when a boy in his native land was educated in a soldiers' school and in 1868 was entered as a full-fledged soldier in the Franco-Prussian war, serving throughout that campaign. He was a member of the Fifth Prussian Dragoons and saw active service at the battles of Metz, Toulon, Orleans, Bruges, Sedan, Cikano and many other minor engagements.

After the close of the war, in 1873, Peter Gast emigrated to the United States, leaving his parents behind him, but bringing with him his wife. They resided in Wisconsin for a year and in 1874 came to Otter Tail county, this state, which has since been their home. The first tract of land they purchased contained forty acres and they now own one hundred and twenty. This land is well improved, has fine orchards, good buildings and in addition to general farming, they raise a goodly number of cattle for the market each year. In every respect, Mr. Gast merits the name of a progressive and up-to-date farmer. Mrs. Gast has been of wonderful assistance to him, both in capably managing her part of the farm work and also by the income she has received as nurse, as before mentioned. They came to this country poor, but with a wonderful supply of industry and ambition, and have not only succeeded well along material lines, but they are held in the highest esteem by their wide circle of friends. They have reared and educated a large family and have filled most useful places in life. About a year ago Mr. Gast suffered a sunstroke, from which he has never wholly recovered and has since been bedfast, but so strong is his spirit that even with his affliction, he maintains a cheerfulness quite surprising. This pleasing state is due not only to his own indomitable will but also in a large measure to the

companionship existing between himself and his good wife who does all within her power to lighten his burden.

Mrs. Gast before her marriage was Minna Sandhoff, also a native of Germany and a daughter of William and Maria (Verner) Sandhoff, neither of whom ever came to this country. Mr. and Mrs. Gast are the parents of nine children, two of whom died in early infancy. Those remaining are: Frederick, who resides at Fergus Falls, where he is superintendent of the Manhattan building; Delinda, wife of August Weinrich, a farmer of Otter Tail county; Alfreda, wife of Joseph Doll, of Colton, Washington; Marguerite, who married Frank Kalsow and lives in Moorhead, Minnesota; Richard, who remains at home, unmarried, and does the active work about the homestead; Albert, a printer, of Winona, this state, and Gertrude, wife of Fritz Kalsow, of Otter Tail county.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Gast are devout members of the Lutheran church, and in that faith they carefully reared their family. In politics, Mr. Gast is a Republican and was for many years known as one of the active workers in his section. For twenty-seven years he served his party as road overseer and township assessor, at different times, and under his supervision great strides were made in the improvement of the public highways. Both Mr. and Mrs. Gast deserve the flattering degree of respect in which they are held, for each in their own way have lived active, useful lives, and in their home their joint endeavor has brought them a degree of material success commensurate with their effort and the love and respect of an interesting family.

JESSE P. BILLINGS.

To gain a broad experience in a general way, it is necessary for one to get out into the world and find out what is being accomplished in different parts of the country, and in this respect Mr. Billings has had ample opportunity to store his mind with valuable ideas in many directions, having been a traveling man for fifteen years, all of which has been of untold value in his vocation as an agriculturist, since he has been able to put into actual practice the information gleaned in passing through various agricultural districts.

Jesse P. Billings, farmer, Fergus Falls, Otter Tail county, was born on April 20, 1880, and is a son of J. S. Billings. He was educated in the public schools at Fergus Falls, and after completing his education he became a traveling salesman for the firm of N. K. Fairbanks & Company, soap manufacturers, during which time he resided at Minneapolis. In 1913 he moved to his father's farm, where he became a breeder of Shorthorn cattle, Duroc hogs and Shropshire sheep, the cattle all being shipped to the

Northwest. He is considered one of the hustling young farmers of the county. Fraternally, he is a members of the Elks lodge at Fergus Falls.

J. S. Billings, father of the subject of this sketch, is a sheriff at Fergus Falls, and his sketch is presented elsewhere in this volume.

Jesse P. Billings was united in marriage, at Chicago, Illinois, November 25, 1901, with Julian Gosch, daughter of Martin and Josephine (Bresky) Gosch. She was born on February 7, 1880. This union has been blest with one child, Sheldon, born on April 10, 1906, at Minneapolis.

Mr. Billings is a man of generous impulses and genial disposition, and because of his industrious habits and persistent attention to business, has achieved definite success in his chosen vocation, standing high in the estimation of the citizens of Fergus Falls township.

PETER J. MOBRAATEN.

The late Peter J. Mobraaten, who for years was one of the most active residents of Oscar township, this county, came to America from Norway in 1869. He landed at the port of New York and almost immediately thereafter started for Minnesota. Upon arriving in this state, he located in Fillmore county, where he remained for one year, at the end of which time, in 1871, he came to Otter Tail county, where he homesteaded a quarter of a section of land in Oscar township and there he spent the remainder of his life, his death occurring on July 27, 1913. Mr. Mobraaten was a fine farmer and a sturdy citizen, who was held in high regard in the neighborhood which he had done so much to help improve and he was widely mourned at the time of his death.

Peter J. Mobraaten was born in the kingdom of Norway on December 2, 1830, and there spent his youth and early manhood. In 1860 he decided to try his fortune in the promising land across the Atlantic. He came alone, landing at New York, proceeding thence to this state, where for one year he conducted a boarding house in Fillmore county. The next winter he spent in Alexandria, this state, and in the spring of 1871 he came to this county, entering one hundred and sixty acres of government land in sections 26 and 27, in Oscar township, which he proceeded to clear and make habitable. It was in that year, simultaneous to his coming to Otter Tail county, that Mr. Mobraaten married Bertha Spaberg, who was born in Norway on December 5, 1845, daughter of Peter P. and Carrie (Torjet) Spaberg, and who, during the years they were engaged laboriously in making a home in the then wilderness, proved a most valuable and competent helpmate. Their home presently was made and as the years went by they accomplished the full task of bringing to a high state of cultivation their excellent farm, at the same time making themselves useful in many neighborly ways

in that community, so that they came to be regarded as among the leaders in their particular locality, their influence ever being for good.

To Peter J. and Bertha (Spaberg) Mobraaten were born nine children, Peter P., Mary, Carrie, Julia, Minnie Bessie, Julius, Oscar and Petrine, of whom Mary, Julia, Minnie and Oscar are married. Mr. and Mrs. Mobraaten ever were active members of the Norwegian Lutheran church and their children were reared in that faith, all growing up to be useful members of the community. Since the death of her husband, Mrs. Mobraaten has continued to make her home on the homestead farm, which is now cultivated under the active management of her eldest son, Peter P. Mobraaten, who was born on the homestead on December 20, 1871, and who is doing well his part in the community life of Oscar township and the Fergus Falls locality generally, he being held in high regard by all who know him, as are all members of the family of the late Peter J. Mobraaten. The Mobraaten farm was enlarged during the occupancy of the late owner by the addition of eighty acres adjoining, which Mr. Mobraaten purchased, the present farm of two hundred and forty acres being well kept and improved in a substantial manner.

O. R. SHONBLUM.

O. R. Shonblom, farmer of Buse township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, is a native of Sweden, born in the northern portion of that country on July 16, 1867, son of Ole and Martha (Lindblum) Shonblom, both natives of the same section of Sweden. They were there married and were of the farmer class, coming to this country in 1884 at the time the immediate subject of this sketch was a young man of eighteen years. The family first located in Des Moines, Iowa, where father and son secured employment in the mines of that vicinity and also at work on a railroad. After a few years spent in Iowa, the parents came to the state of Minnesota and located in Martin county, where the father purchased a farm and made his home until the time of his death in 1897. The mother is still active at the age of seventy-two years, wonderfully well preserved for one of her age. Both were reared in the Lutheran faith and Ole throughout his life was a faithful member of that church, as is his widow today.

O. R. Shonblom was the eldest of a family of four children, two of whom are deceased. The youngest of the family also survives and is engaged in farming in Saskatchewan, Canada. O. R. Shonblom received his education in his native land, attending the public schools, and after coming to this country, has always earned his own way. He moved with his parents to Martin county, where he assisted the father in the work of the home, and then in 1904 he came to Otter Tail county and purchased one hundred

and sixty acres of land in Buse township. There was a residence on the farm and that he repaired, as well as other buildings, and erected a new barn better suited to his needs. He has succeeded well in his undertaking and is uniformly successful with his crops as well as with his live stock, to the raising of which he devotes considerable time and attention. Mr. Shonblom is a member of the Lutheran church, in which faith he was reared, and in politics he votes independently. He has been a director of his local school district several times and takes a commendable interest in all matters pertaining to the welfare of the community.

O. R. Shonblom was married on January 1, 1889, to Anna Lorena Poulson, a native of Orleans, Norway, and a daughter of Hilgate and Lorena Poulson. To this union have been born four children, namely: Lily, wife of Arthur Larson, a farmer of the province of Saskatchewan, Canada, and the mother of four children; Ruby, Harvey (deceased), Harvey and Irene; Hjelmer died at the age of five years; Hjelmer, at home, and the youngest of the family is Almeda, who is at home with her parents.

Mr. Shonblom is highly esteemed by his fellow citizens, for he is a man of good characteristics, devoted to home and its interests and is worthy of being numbered among the representative citizens of Otter Tail county.

OLAF TH. SHERPING, M.D.

Dr. Olaf Th. Sherping, so well and favorably known as a physician of Fergus Falls, Minnesota, enjoys an extensive practice not only in Fergus Falls, but throughout Otter Tail county, and is ranked among the leading physicians and surgeons in this part of Minnesota.

Olaf Th. Sherping was born in Hallingdal, Norway, on August 6, 1864. He is a son of Thorstein and Margaret (Opheim) Sherping, the former of whom was a farmer in Norway, and who died there in 1898, while the latter died in 1880.

Olaf Th. Sherping received his early educational training in the schools of his native land, and was graduated from the Latin school at Christiania, Norway. After leaving school he immigrated to America, landing in New York city on May 20, 1884. He came west to Canton, South Dakota, where he remained for three years, and in 1888 went to Green Bay, Wisconsin, where he studied medicine in the office of Dr. U. F. M. Poppe for two years. Upon finishing his preliminary study, he entered the medical department of Keokuk College, at Keokuk, Iowa, and was graduated from that excellent institution with the class of 1894, since which time he has taken post-graduate work at Chicago, New York, Vienna, and London.

Immediately after his graduation from the medical department of the Keokuk College, Doctor Sherping located at Enderlin, North Dakota,



OLAF TIL SHERPING, M. D.

where he pursued the active practice of his profession until 1902. In the latter year he removed to Fergus Falls, Minnesota, where he still resides, and where he is actively engaged in the practice of his profession, being widely known and recognized in medical circles throughout this section of the country. He is a member of the Park Region Medical Society, the Minnesota State Medical Association and the American Medical Association, and has taken a prominent part in the official proceedings of these various associations and societies. Doctor Sherping is practically the founder of St. Luke's hospital, of Fergus Falls, and is now the acting surgeon of this institution.

Dr. Olaf Th. Sherping was married in 1895 to May M. Sollin, the daughter of C. A. Sollin, and to this union has been born one son, Ralph Victor, who is a graduate of St. John's Military Academy at Delafield, Wisconsin.

Doctor Sherping is the owner of a beautiful country estate located in Dane Prairie township, this county, about eight miles from Fergus Falls, which is one of the most attractive places in the county.

Norway has given to America many of its most successful citizens, and Otter Tail county and the state of Minnesota have been fortunate to receive within their borders many of these splendid young men, among whom is Doctor Sherping.

CARL MILLER.

Carl Miller, residing on his farm of two hundred and thirty acres in Buse township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, is a German by birth, born in the province of Pomerania, Prussia, on May 20, 1857, being the only child of Carl and Bertha (Miller) Miller. Both parents were natives of the same province and spent their entire lives in that place. The father was engaged in farming throughout all the active years of his life, and in that way Carl became versed in agriculture while still a boy.

Carl Miller was educated in the public schools near his home and trained by his devout parents in the faith of the Lutheran church. While still a youth he learned the miller's trade and followed that trade in his native land for fourteen years, but has never followed that occupation in this country. He emigrated to America in 1882 and settled in Faribault, this state, where for two years he worked part of the time at farm labor and the balance of the time on the railroad. He was ambitious to succeed, and near Faribault secured a farm, which he rented and farmed for one year. In 1886 he came to Otter Tail county and secured a farm in Fergus Falls township, which he rented and farmed for twelve and one-half years. He

then moved into Buse township and rented for three years, purchasing his present farm near that location. When he secured the farm it was only partially improved and Mr. Miller has finished clearing the land, repaired the buildings and brought a general note of prosperity to the place. He engages in general farming and stock raising, such as practiced throughout this section, and is uniformly successful in his undertaking.

Carl Miller was united in marriage in 1884, with Paulina Friederich, who was born in Germany, a daughter of Frederick Friederich, being brought to this country by her parents when a child of two years. The family settled in Wisconsin, where they lived a number of years, later coming to Faribault, this state, where both parents closed their lives. Mr. and Mrs. Miller have a family of eight children, the eldest of whom is William, who still remains at home. Carl is a farmer near Wimmer, North Dakota. Eric is at home, while Richard is engaged in farming near Faribault. The others of the family, Robert, Agnes, Arthur and August, still remain under the parental roof.

Mr. and Mrs. Miller are both devout members of the Lutheran church, and have carefully reared their family in that faith. They are counted among the leading members of their local congregation and have a large number of friends outside of church circles as well. Mr. Miller votes independently in politics, but in view of his many duties, has never given any time to that phase of citizenship. Throughout the years of his residence here he has proven himself a man of honor and integrity, well worthy of the esteem in which he is held by all who know him.

CHARLES M. ANDERSON.

Charles M. Anderson, residing on his farm of three hundred and twenty acres in Buse township, near the city of Fergus Falls, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, is accounted one of the most progressive farmers of his section. He carries on general farming and meets with excellent success with his crops, while with live stock he is also uniformly successful.

Mr. Anderson was born in Norway on September 15, 1861, a son of Martinus and Martha Anderson, both natives of that same place. The father was a goldsmith by trade and his death occurred in 1871. The mother never remarried and passed from this life in 1895. Both parents were devout members of the Lutheran church and in that faith reared their children. There were five in the family, all coming to this country but two. These are Petra, the eldest, who married Christina Gunness, and Emma, who is located near the childhood home. The subject of this sketch is the fourth child in order of birth and together with his sisters, Mary and Edwarda, emigrated to this country. Mary met death by drowning

in Lake Harriett, this state, while still a girl, and Edwarda is the wife of a Mr. Johnson, of Spokane, Washington.

Mr. Anderson received a fair education in the common schools of his native land and from the time he was ten years old, he made his own way in the world. While a boy he did all sorts of odd jobs and finally became quite proficient as a clerk in various stores. He came to America in 1878 and settled in Minneapolis, in which city he did odd jobs of work and later worked on farms nearby. About 1886 he came to Otter Tail county and near Fergus Falls worked on the farm owned by Blake Brothers, where he was employed for three years. Then for the following seven or eight years, he worked on the farm owned by J. S. Billings & Company, after which he engaged in farming for himself. He rented for six or eight years the farm which is now his own, purchasing it about the year 1900. After securing possession of the place, he set about improving the buildings and now has a comfortable residence and good outbuildings, the entire place appearing well-kept and prosperous.

On February 22, 1894, Charles M. Anderson was united in marriage with Sarah Erickson, born at Orrdale in this county, daughter of Arno and Carrie Erickson, who were among the very earliest settlers of this county. To this union has been born a family of six, namely: Leonard, George, Clarence, Selma, living in South Dakota and the wife of Albert Edmundson; Florence and Myrtle. Mr. Anderson takes a commendable interest in all matters pertaining to the welfare of community life and gives his influence to any project working toward that end. Fraternally, he is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America and is much interested in the work of that order. He is honorable and upright in his dealings with his fellow men and is entitled to the respect in which he is generally held.

ANDREW ANDERSEN.

Andrew Andersen, of Buse township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, is a native of Denmark, born in that country on February 20, 1865, son of Jens and Karen (Rasmusen) Andersen. Both parents were also natives of Denmark and spent their entire lives in that country. The father was a blacksmith and also a small farmer and was at one time a soldier. The last time he saw active service was in 1860 in the war with Germany, but owing to the state of his health, most of his time was spent in the hospital. Both parents were members of the Danish Baptist church. There were thirteen children in their family, nine of whom grew to maturity, and most of them are now citizens of the United States. Hans J., the eldest, was the first to come to America. He settled in Otter Tail county, where he married and where his death occurred. Stenne died in her native land

of Denmark. The third child in order of birth is the immediate subject of this sketch. Rasmus, the fourth child, died in Denmark, where Meta, wife of Jergen Petersen, also lives. Karen (Mrs. Christ. Larson) and Marie (Mrs. Jens Johnson) both live in Otter Tail county, while Peter and Maren have remained in Denmark and have not married. The children who have come to this country have met with a pleasing degree of material success and make worthy citizens of their adopted country.

Andrew Andersen received his education in the public schools of Denmark and when a youth turned to farming as his life vocation. He came to this country alone at the age of nineteen years and joined his brother, Hans J., who had come over some time previous. It was in 1884 that Andrew set foot on American soil and he came at once to Fergus Falls and secured work on a farm in Western township. He passed the following five years in this manner and then bought a farm of forty acres, unimproved, in Aurdal township, and also rented some adjoining land. He erected a small house on his land and lived there three years, when he sold out and moved to Buse township. For a year and a half he rented land near Horseshoe lake and then moved to Western township, where he purchased a farm of one hundred and sixty acres and made his home there for the following nine years. In 1901 or 1902 he sold his Western township farm and again came to Buse township, where he bought one hundred and forty-six acres, which has since been his home. In 1900 he purchased ninety-four additional acres, and in 1915 he sold eighty acres leaving his holdings at the present time one hundred and sixty acres. Since locating on his present site he has erected modern farm buildings, greatly remodeled the residence and has made extensive improvements to the farm in every way. He devotes his time and attention both to general farming and stock raising and is uniformly successful in whatever he undertakes.

A Republican in politics, Mr. Andersen has served the local school board as clerk and is now acting as treasurer of that board. He and his wife are members of the Swedish Baptist church and contribute generously of their means toward the support of the local organization. Mrs. Andersen was Carrie Anderson, also a native of Denmark and a daughter of Nels and Johana Marie (Madsen), Andersen. The father passed his entire life in his native land, where the mother is still living. To Mr. and Mrs. Andersen have been born a family of seven children. Sadie is the wife of Halder Bergson, of Fergus Falls; William, a carpenter by trade, nominally lives at home but spends a great deal of time in Fergus Falls, where most of his work is. Axel died at the age of twenty-one, and Robert, also a carpenter, is away from home all the time. Those still remaining with the parents are Edwin, Harry and Esther. The Andersen family are well known

throughout the community where they dwell and are highly esteemed. Mr. Andersen is well entitled to the success with which he has met, for it is but commensurate with the effort which he put into his undertaking.

ANDREW C. OLSON.

Andrew C. Olson, farmer of Buse township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, residing near the city of Fergus Falls, is a native of the state of Iowa, born in the town of McGregor on April 14, 1871, son of Christian and Rachel Olson. Mr. Olson's parents were both born in Norway, were married there in 1870 and came directly to the United States. They went to McGregor, Iowa, where they remained but a short time, and then came to the state of Minnesota, locating in Sherburne county. Here they permanently located. They purchased a farm, which they set about improving and on that homestead the children were all reared. The father's death occurred about the year 1892 and the mother had died a few years previously. There were four children in the family, of whom Andrew C., the immediate subject of this sketch, is the youngest. Lottie married Hans Anderson and resides in Sherburne county, and in that same county Annie and Ole also make their homes, the latter engaged in farming. Mr. Olson's parents were both faithful lifelong members of the Lutheran church and ordered their lives in accordance with its teachings.

Andrew C. Olson received his education in the common schools of Sherburne county and from his earliest boyhood he was taught by his father to assist in the work of the farm home. He well understood the secrets of successful husbandry by the time he had attained manhood and when about twenty-one years of age he started out in life for himself. The following four years he hired out to farm labor in different places near his home and about 1896 or 1897 he came to Otter Tail county, where he located permanently. For a time he was a renter in Carlisle township and then purchased a farm on the shores of Swan lake, where he resided for three years. In 1910 he purchased the farm of one hundred and sixty acres in Buse township, where he has since made his home, giving his attention to general farming such as is commonly practiced throughout this section.

Mr. Olson is one who takes a keen interest in all that affects community life and as an organizer and promoter of the Horseshoe Lake Telephone Company he has rendered valuable service. He has also acted as president of the company named since its organization. In politics, Mr. Olson prefers to vote independently, not being bound by any party lines, and as one sincerely seeking the best conditions possible he has served as a member of the local school board.

On November 13, 1897 Andrew C. Olson was united in marriage with

Elsie Paulson, born on April 4, 1877, in Waseca county, this state, a daughter of Paul and Annie (Knutson) Paulson. Mrs. Olson's parents were both born in Norway, the father at Telemarken and the mother at Siterdalen. The mother was brought to this country about the year 1845, her parents bringing their entire family over. The family located in Wisconsin and to that place came Mrs. Olson's father direct from Norway, when a young man of twenty-one years. There they became acquainted and after marriage located in Waseca county, this state, where they lived for a number of years. Later in life they moved to Grant county, this state, where the remainder of their days were spent. The father died in 1886 and the mother lived until 1900. Both were faithful members of the Lutheran church and highly respected by all who knew them.

Mrs. Olson is one of a family of eight children, the others being Halvor, a carpenter by trade and resident of North Dakota; Gilbert, also a carpenter and farmer, living on a homestead in Grant county; Carl, deceased; Mary, wife of Samuel Baker, of Tacoma, Washington; Theodore and Carl, deceased, and Johanna, wife of Axel Thronson, of Minneapolis.

To Mr. and Mrs. Olson has been born a family of seven children, namely: Alice, Gladys, Dorris, Ralph, Roland, Kenneth and Lucile. Mr. and Mrs. Olson are members of the Lutheran church and are rearing their family in that faith. Mr. Olson is regarded as one of the public-spirited men of the community, taking a commendable interest in all that affects the welfare of those about him.

JACOB LYNG.

Born in Norway, February 19, 1866, Jacob Lyng, a prosperous farmer of Aurdal township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, is the son of Haldor and Martha Lyng, the former of whom was born in Norway in 1826 and the latter born in that country, June 26, 1830.

Haldor Lyng came to America and to the state of Minnesota in 1867 and, in 1873, settled in Otter Tail county, purchasing two hundred and twenty-five acres of land in Aurdal township. He died at his old home in this township in 1911, and his widow is still living. They were the parents of five children: Christina, who was the wife of John Olson, of Bergus Falls, is deceased; Jacob, who is the subject of this sketch; Henry, who is a farmer of Aurdal township; Bernt, who died in 1897, and Kare, who was the wife of Henry Christenson, of West Superior, Wisconsin, is deceased.

Jacob Lyng was five years old when he came to America. He settled with his parents in Otter Tail county in 1873 and received a limited education in the pioneer schools of this county. From the time that he was old

enough, Mr. Lyng assisted his father on the farm. In 1903 he purchased a farm of two hundred acres, which he now owns. He built a magnificent barn and residence in a beautiful grove and is today surrounded with all of the comforts and conveniences of rural life. Mr. Lyng is a general farmer and stockman.

In 1901, Jacob Lyng was married to Bena Hallon, the daughter of Ole Hallen, of Aurdal township, whose life history is set forth elsewhere in this volume. Mr. and Mrs. Lyng have been the parents of five children, Harold Oliva, Helen Margaret, Jean Bernard, Johannas Bernhoff and one who died in infancy. Mrs. Lyng died on February 27, 1914.

Mr. Lyng and his children are all members of the Lutheran church. Mrs. Lyng was a member of this church at the time of her death.

OLE SWENSON.

The following is a short sketch of Ole Swenson, deceased, who passed from this life on August 30, 1913, death being caused by a fall from a buggy which broke his neck. Mr. Swenson had for many years been a resident of Buse township and was numbered among the best farmers of his community. He was born in Norway on November 1, 1844, a son of Swen and Carrie Nielson, both natives of Norway, who passed their entire lives in their native land. The father was a farmer and there was a large family, four of the number emigrating to America. Of these, Niels, who lived in Fordenkjold, was killed by a falling tree a number of years ago; Marie, wife of Anders Rasmusen, lives in North Dakota; Ever died in Portland, Oregon, where he had made his home for some time.

Ole Swenson received his education in the schools of his native land and emigrated to America in 1868, when in the first flush of young manhood. He first located in Minnesota, and then for a time lived in Wisconsin, returning to Minnesota in 1870, where he passed the remaining years of his life. He homesteaded a claim of one hundred and sixty acres in Buse township, this county, and later purchased twenty-nine additional acres. He first built a log house and to this later added a frame portion and built other farm buildings, so that at the time of his death he had acquired a comfortable home. In politics he was a Republican and took a commendable interest in the affairs of the community.

Ole Swenson was married in January of 1878 to Margaret Johnson, a native of Norway, born on June 11, 1848, a daughter of John Ingelson. The father died when Mrs. Swenson was but fourteen years old and when nineteen years of age she emigrated to this country. Mrs. Swenson was one of a family of nine children, three of whom died in infancy and but one other came to this country. There is but one remaining member of her

family across the water, a brother, Ever Johnson, who lives in Sweden. The one who came to America is Ellen Sophia, wife of Hans Mertren, of North Dakota. Twelve years after Mrs. Swenson came to this country, the mother also crossed and went to her daughter, Ellen Sophia, who at that time lived in Wisconsin. She later came to live with Mrs. Swenson and was with her at the time death claimed her.

There are four children in the Swenson family, of whom John, the eldest, remains at the home with the mother and manages the farm. The second child, Mary, died in infancy, and Carrie, the third, is the wife of Carl Johan Johnson, who also make their home on the Swenson farm. Carrie is the mother of three children: Orville A., Clarence and Myron Y. Serena, the youngest of the Swenson children, and wife of Ole Stinerson, is also deceased. Mrs. Swenson is a faithful member of the Parkdale Lutheran church, as was also her husband, and she has a large number of friends who esteem her for her kind and sympathetic nature and many womanly traits.

E. T. RISBRUDT.

A career of general usefulness in many directions has been that of E. T. Risbrudt, who on account of the various activities in which he has been engaged is a man of broad understanding of problems of business and a keen student of human nature. E. T. Risbrudt is a native of the county in which he still resides, having been born in St. Olaf, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, on the 31st of January, 1874, the son of Torkel and Gurine (Soliah) Risbrudt.

The early educational advantages received by the subject of this sketch were obtained in the common schools of St. Olaf. He received more than the average school has to offer and from 1891 until 1892, attended the Lutheran College in Decorah. His ambition to complete a college course was realized in 1893, when he was graduated from the Park Region College. He was one of the first graduates of that institution. Throughout his school course, E. T. Risbrudt showed more than ordinary ability and it was only a natural consequence that after completing his education he should have chosen the teaching profession which at that time he was most capable of carrying on. Mr. Risbrudt taught school for five years after finishing college and at the end of that time, which was in 1899, bought a farm of two hundred acres in Tunnuli township, section 32. He remained on the farm following the occupation as a farmer until 1907, when he came to Dalton as grain buyer for the Dalton Co-operative Warehouse Association. He remained with the grain association for three years and in the fall of 1910 entered the employment of the First State Bank of Ashby.

Minnesota, where for a year he served as assistant cashier. Owing to failing health, Mr. Risbrudt decided to return to farm life on the land which he still owned and where he remained until 1912. Mr. Risbrudt, after the two years spent in regaining his health, was appointed general manager of the Dalton Grain and Lumber Company and has served in that capacity up to the present time.

The marriage of E. T. Risbrudt to Helen Engebretson was solemnized in 1899. Mrs. Risbrudt was born on the 5th of March, 1875, and is the daughter of Erick Engebretson, one of the pioneer settlers of Tumuli township. The children born to Mrs. and Mrs. Risbrudt are: Clifford, who was born in 1907; Russell, who was born in 1914; Truman and Henry. Mr. and Mrs. Risbrudt are members of the Norwegian Lutheran church.

In his political interests Mr. Risbrudt votes independently. He has done everything in his power to advance the business conditions in the community in which he lives and as a member of a number of organizations has made a large acquaintance among the residents of the county. He is a member of the Elk's lodge and of the Woodman's lodge.

JOSEPH P. BENDAL.

Born at Starbuck, Minnesota, March 12, 1883, Joseph P. Bendal, cashier of the First State Bank, of Dalton, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, is the son of Peter J. and Pauline (Olson) Bendal, who were born in Norway, the former in 1854 and the latter in 1856. Both are living. Mr. Bendal's father was educated in the common schools of Norway and in 1872 came to America, locating at La Crosse, Wisconsin. After living at La Crosse until 1881, during which time he was employed in a saw mill as a sawyer and as foreman of another mill, the family came to Pope county, Minnesota, where Mr. Bendal's father farmed until 1913. On coming to Pope county, the father homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres. In 1911 he retired from active farming and moved to Starbuck, where he now lives. Ten children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Peter J. Bendal, namely: John, Anna, Ole, Joseph P., Petra, Julius, Lena (deceased), Edwin, Nettie and Pauline (deceased). Mr. Bendal's parents are members of the Norwegian Lutheran church and his father votes the Republican ticket.

Joseph P. Bendal was educated in the common schools of Starbuck, Minnesota, and later attended Glenwood Academy. Still later he was a student in the Northern Indiana Normal School at Valparaiso, Indiana, from 1903 to 1905, inclusive. Finishing his college education, he taught one year in Pope county, Minnesota, and, in 1907, was employed in the First National Bank at Elbow Lake and the Douglas County Bank at Verandria. Two years later he came to Dalton as cashier of the First State

Bank and has held this position ever since. The growth and prosperity of this institution is due, in no small measure, to the worthy service performed by its cashier, Mr. Brendal.

In 1911 Joseph P. Brendal was married to Ella Reiersen, who was born on February 22, 1878, and who is the daughter of G. Reiersen. Mr. and Mrs. Brendal have no children. Mr. Brendal is an intelligent young citizen and banker and prominent in all public affairs in his home town. Mr. and Mrs. Brendal are members of the Norwegian Lutheran church. In politics, Joseph P. Brendal is identified with the Republican party.

EMIL HAGEN.

Born in Sverdrup township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, September 9, 1885, Emil Hagen, a prosperous young business man and farmer of Dalton, is the son of Ole E. Hagen and his second wife, who was Lena Sim. Mr. Hagen's parents were both natives of Norway and came to America in 1883, locating shortly in Otter Tail county, Minnesota.

Mr. Hagen's father homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of land in this county and has lived here ever since. He is a general farmer and stockman and has reared a family of fourteen children.

Emil Hagen received his education in the common schools of Otter Tail county. In 1911 Mr. Hagen began farming in St. Olaf township on his own responsibility. About this time, in partnership with his brother, Ingvald, he purchased one hundred and seventy-seven acres of land in Otter Tail county and, in 1914, also in partnership with his brother, Ingvald, he purchased the meat market at Dalton. The brothers enjoy a good business at Dalton and, besides this, own and operate the farm together.

In 1911 Emil Hagen was married to Ella J. Randahl, the daughter of John Randahl, and to them have been born two children, Evelyn, born in 1912, and Charlotte, born in 1914.

Mr. Hagen, who lives in Dalton, is a man of large business ability and has already made a substantial start on the road to success. He has a host of friends in Dalton and vicinity who admire him for his industry, his thrift and his careful, honest business management.

ERICK E. NELSON.

Erick E. Nelson, a well known farmer of Aurdal township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, was born on December 20, 1858, in Norway. Mr. Nelson moved to Moore county, Minnesota, with his parents in 1862 and immigrated with them to Otter Tail county, Minnesota, in 1868. He was educated in the public schools of Otter Tail county and has been engaged in

farming all of his life. Mr. Nelson has two hundred and thirty-three acres of land, a part of which belongs to the old homestead. He began farming on this land and has made most of the improvements which are to be found on the land today. The farm is equipped with very good buildings. Mr. Nelson carries on general farming and stock raising.

Mr. Nelson is the son of Ingebret and Aaste Nelson, both of whom were born in Norway, the former in 1819 and the latter in 1820. They moved to Moore county, Minnesota, in 1862, and to Otter Tail county in 1868, homesteading one hundred and sixty acres of land in this township in sections 23 and 25. Later they added sixty acres to their homestead farm by purchase and improved the land. Mr. Nelson's father died in 1906 and his mother in 1902. They were the parents of five children, Sarah, Nels, Haldi, Erick and Anton.

Erick E. Nelson was married in 1882 to Ingeborg K. Jorstad, who was born in Norway on September 28, 1855. Mr. and Mrs. Nelson have five children, Edwin, Althea, Conrad, Samuel and Maybelle, all of whom are living. Mr. and Mrs. Nelson and family are members of the Lutheran church of this township.

HAAVEL GRINAGER.

The largest department store in Fergus Falls is the "Golden Rule" department store, of which Haaval K. Grinager is the proprietor. Like most commercial undertakings, this store has grown to its present extensive proportions from a general store opened in Fergus Falls on March 23, 1896. The "Golden Rule" department store has occupied its present location since 1902, the store, by that time, having outgrown its former quarters. Behind the success of this splendid institution is the personality of its proprietor.

Haavel K. Grinager was born in Gran Hadeland, Norway, October 24, 1863. He is the son of Knut and Kjerti Grinager, the former of whom was a farmer during his active career, but who is now living retired with his daughter at Krogstadelven, Norway.

Reared on a farm and educated in the common schools and at the Gran Amt Skole, of his native land, Haavel K. Grinager immigrated to America with his sister, Siri, when eighteen years old. They arrived in America in May, 1882, and a little later established themselves at Albert Lea, Minnesota, where Mr. Grinager endeavored to obtain employment. The only encouragement he received came from a large merchant at Albert Lea, who offered him a position without pay for a period of six months. Mr. Grinager naturally refused this offer and from Albert Lea went to Hartland, fourteen miles away, where he was employed by Simon & Hoffland for eighteen dollars a month. After remaining with Simon & Hoffland for

about one year, in the fall of 1883, he went to Mayville, North Dakota, where he worked for a machine firm for eighteen months. He was next employed in the general store of Chantland Brothers and, after having been employed by them for three years, established a small general store of his own in Mayville, where he remained until the fall of 1895, when he sold out to Grinager & Springer.

During the spring of 1896, Mr. Grinager came to Fergus Falls and on March 23, 1896, established a general store on the present site of the Fergus Falls National Bank. In this location he remained for six years and at the end of that time, moved to his present location on Lincoln avenue, west. The present store has been greatly increased, not only the stock of merchandise, but the floor space as well. It is now a handsome department store with a splendid front and is widely patronized by the people of Fergus Falls and vicinity.

By his marriage to Isabelle Martin, a native of Canada, Haavel K. Grinager has a family of seven children: Clinton F., who is employed in his father's store, Rachel M., Paul A., Haavel A., Emmett F., Katherine M. and Stanley A.

Mr. Grinager has the largest and most thoroughly equipped store in Fergus Falls, Minnesota.

ANTON E. NELSON.

Born in Moore county, Minnesota, July 8, 1863, Anton E. Nelson is the son of Ingebret and Aaste Nelson, both of whom were born in Norway, the former in 1819 and the latter in 1820.

Mr. Nelson's parents immigrated to America and settled in Moore county, Minnesota, in 1862. Six years later they moved to Otter Tail county, Minnesota, and homesteaded land where their son, Anton E., now lives. They homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of land and later bought sixty acres, making in all two hundred and twenty acres. They lived upon this farm from year to year, gradually improving their valuable farm, until their deaths. Mr. Nelson's father died in 1906 and his mother in 1902. They were the parents of five children, Sarah, Nels, Haldor, Erick and Anton E.

Anton E. Nelson was reared on the old homestead farm and was educated in the public schools. Mr. Nelson has always been engaged in farming. He owns one hundred and forty acres of land in Aurdal township and, since his father's death, has erected the present buildings and has made other improvements upon the farm.

On November 22, 1895, Anton E. Nelson was married to Magne Bye, who was born on March 22, 1878, in Dane Prairie township, a daughter of

Stephen H. and Betsy (Randall) Bye. Mr. and Mrs. Nelson have eight children, Alice, Lillian, Hazel, Sanford, Kathleen, Clarice, Vernon and Blaine.

Mr. Nelson has been a member of the school board and has been, for many years, prominent in the affairs of the Lutheran church. All of the members of the Nelson family are identified with this church. Mr. Nelson is a highly respected citizen and is known as a successful farmer in the community where he lives.

OLE O. EGGUM.

A successful farmer and a citizen who has taken no small part in the conduct of public affairs and in the regulation of church affairs in Otter Tail county, is Ole O. Eggum, the subject of this sketch, who as one of the esteemed and respected men of the community is entitled to a place among the leading citizens of the county.

Ole O. Eggum was born in Norway on March 26, 1853, the son of Ole and Martha (Olson) Eggum, who were born in Norway, where they lived until the year 1873, when they came to America, and settled at St. Olaf, Minnesota, where they lived for a time and then came to Otter Tail county, Minnesota, where Ole Eggum farmed until his death. Ole and Martha Eggum were the parents of eight children, Ole O., Knudt, Emma, Anna, Ole, Ergreen, Knudt and Anfant. Ole Eggum and his wife, Martha, were faithful and loyal members of the Lutheran church, taking an active part in the affairs of the congregation and lending their aid to its works.

Ole O. Eggum was educated in the schools of his native country and for a short time he attended school after reaching America with his parents. At an early age Ole O. Eggum was compelled to leave his classes and he worked on farms for some time and then he homesteaded a farm in Aastad township, where he broke up the soil and on which he built necessary buildings and otherwise improved into one of the best farms of the locality. Mr. Eggum now owns three hundred and twenty acres of land, all of which is well cultivated and improved, and completely equipped for modern farming pursuits.

During the year 1880, Ole O. Eggum was married to Renda M. Olmstad and to this marriage were born ten children, Olaf, Joseph, Martin, Christina, Albert, Andrew, Emil, Randolph, Emma and Elvin.

Ole O. Eggum has been prominent in the public life of Otter Tail county and of Aastad township, both as an occupant of public office and as a man of influence in the community affairs. Mr. Eggum has served his township as a supervisor, has been a member of the school board and accomplished great work for his locality as overseer of roads. Few men of the

Lutheran church at Rock Prairie are so well known or have proved such a worthy part of the congregation as has Ole O. Eggum, who during a period of more than fifteen years has served with tact and with unusual ability as one of the board of trustees. Whatever the matter or whenever of possible service to the township Ole O. Eggum has been willing to do his part and has won for himself a position of prominence in the community.

IVER IVERSON.

A well-known merchant of Western township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, a man who by his unaided efforts has risen from a modest beginning to that of one of the leading business men of the community, and one who has, as the result of intelligent endeavor, attained a conspicuous place in the public works of his locality, and who has made a host of friends because of his pleasing personality and unselfish nature, is Iver Iverson, the subject of this sketch.

Iver Iverson was born in Norway on May 1, 1864, the son of Stoner and Gertrude (Paulsdatter) Iverson, both of whom were born in Norway and lived in that country until August, 1870, when they came to America and located in Racine county, Wisconsin, where Stoner Iverson secured employment in a pinery, a place where he worked for about one year. During the spring of 1871 he and his family moved to Otter Tail county, where he homesteaded a farm in Western township. In taking possession of his claim, Stoner Iverson found the land to be raw prairie and without improvement; he therefore proceeded to break up the soil and after gathering logs built a log house to replace the dug-out, in which he was compelled to live during the first days on his newly-acquired land. Later this hardy pioneer of Otter Tail county built new and modern buildings for his farm, set out trees which have now grown to be three feet in diameter, and equipped his farm with those things necessary to pursue the most approved methods of farming. For the past fifteen years Mr. Iverson has lived in retirement with his son, his wife, Gertrude, having died during the year 1895.

Stoner and Gertrude Iverson were the parents of the following children: N. A. Nelson, deceased; Iver, the subject of this sketch, and Bertha, who died at the age of three years, shortly after reaching America.

Iver Iverson was educated in the public schools of Racine county, Wisconsin, and in the common schools of Otter Tail county, Minnesota, after which he became a farmer and lived on the home place, to which he added, by purchase, one hundred and sixty acres of land, where he followed general agricultural pursuits until the year 1910, when, desiring to retire from the farm, Iver Iverson bought the mercantile business of J. H. Rice, a place

located near his farm, and a business which he now conducts in a most enterprising manner.

On January 25, 1892, Iver Iverson was married to Anna M. Engebretson, who was born in the state of Iowa, July 16, 1867, and with her parents came to Otter Tail county in the year 1871. To the marriage of Iver and Anna Iverson were born the following children: Blonda, born on June 10, 1893; Claris, January 19, 1895; Edna, November 7, 1896; Ida and Agnes, twins, February 1, 1898; Horace, February 1, 1901, and Normand, September 23, 1905.

Iver Iverson and his wife are members of the Norwegian Lutheran church and are people who take an interested and prominent part in the work and worship of that congregation.

Of the men in Western township who have served their localities in public office, Iver Iverson is one of the best known and one who has made an enviable record as chairman of the township board, as an efficient township treasurer, and as treasurer of the school district. In all local affairs Iver Iverson is a man whose counsel and judgment are sought and he is a citizen of the type which has done great things for the community life.

OTTO J. BRANDSLIEN

Among the farmers of Otter Tail county who have made a notable success of their business, as well as being men well known in the community for their interest in public affairs and for their willingness to be of service in all matters for the promotion of general interests, is Otto J. Brandslie, of Tumuli township, who was born in Norway, July 7, 1856, the son of Iver and Mary (Brandslie) Brandslie, who were natives of Norway and lived and died in that country. Iver Brandslie was a farmer in his native land, a pursuit which he followed until later in life, when he was a country merchant. Iver and Mary Brandslie were the parents of thirteen children.

Otto J. Brandslie, the subject of this sketch, received the greater part of his education in Norway, where he lived until the year 1878, and then came to America and settled in Aastad township, this county, where he lived for some time and then he secured a farm of one hundred and thirty acres of land in Tumuli township where he now lives. Mr. Brandslie has one of the well-cultivated and well-improved farms of the community, a place which is cared for after the most approved methods and a farm on which the buildings and the equipment show the results of progressive farming.

During the year 1882 Otto J. Brandslie was married to Berit Nordal, who was born in Norway and who came to this country alone. To this marriage were born six children, Mary, Johanna, Enger, Albert, Louisa and Emma.

Otto J. Brandslien and wife are members of the Norwegian Lutheran church, and as workers and well-known communicants they take a leading place in this congregation. Mr. Brandslien has served his township in the important office of road overseer and during his term of office much advancement was made in the matter of improving the public highways.

As a citizen in public life and as a supporter of public measures, Otto J. Brandslien is a force in the county and township and is of an element of citizenship that has done no small part in the development and advancement of the community life and community interests.

EDWARD J. WEBBER.

The late Edward J. Webber, who was a well-known and successful banker and manufacturer of Fergus Falls, Minnesota, was a native of Wheeling, Illinois, where he was born on April 2, 1858.

Mr. Webber's boyhood days were passed in Wheeling and Crown Point, Indiana. Later he moved to Niles, Michigan, and resided there for several years. In 1882 he was married in Niles to Emma Backmann, the daughter of Francis X. Backmann, a native of Alsace-Lorraine, then a province of France. To this marriage there were born two children, Herbert E. and Marjory L.

After his marriage, Mr. Webber and his wife came to Fergus Falls, Minnesota, where he engaged in the blacksmith's trade with E. Shaver, who was at that time operating a small blacksmith shop on Lincoln avenue, east. A short time afterward Mr. Webber engaged in the blacksmith business on his own account, his shop at that period being located on the present site of A. J. Fellows' shop. He occupied rooms over the shop and a few months afterwards moved into the building, which was destroyed by fire. Practically everything he had was lost, but with the energy which characterized his entire career he rebuilt and soon was able to claim a first-class business.

From the blacksmith's trade he gradually shifted into the machinery business. He first put in a few plows and later a general line of farm machinery. He was soon enjoying a splendid patronage and his business steadily increased beyond his expectations. He was still planning to extend his sphere of activity at the time of his death, which occurred on March 12, 1905. At the time of his death, Mr. Webber was president of the Fergus Falls National Bank, president of the Fergus Packing Company and president of the Fergus Casket Works, as well as one of the joint owners of the Manhattan building. He was also largely interested in other city property. Some years before his death, Mr. Webber was made president of the bank



EDWARD J. WEBSTER.

at Deer Creek. He was a director in the bank at Pelican Rapids and the owner of a number of farm properties in Otter Tail county.

Mr. Webber had a wonderful capacity for business and a wonderful talent for business details. His judgment was practically unerring and as fast as he accumulated money he invested it in new enterprises.

The late Edward J. Webber was one of the most genial of men. He was possessed of those admirable qualities of heart and head which made him respected in the city and county where the greatest measure of his success was obtained. Aside from the consideration and attention which he gave to his family he was interested in all good works, and gave his time ungrudgingly in the promotion of worthy public enterprises. At the time of his death he was a member of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks and the Modern Woodmen of America.

LEONARD PETERSON.

From Sweden has come to America many of this country's most desirable and successful men of foreign birth. Industrious, resourceful, serving their adopted country honestly and faithfully, and men who in the material things of life have achieved great results, as they have in the matters of good lives and citizenship, they have won a conspicuous place in the hearts of the American people. Of this type of manhood and citizenship is Leonard Peterson, the subject of this sketch, who is one of the prosperous farmers and stock raisers of Otter Tail county.

Leonard Peterson was born in Sweden on June 17, 1876, the son of C. J. and Christine (Johnson) Peterson, both of whom were born in Sweden, in which country they lived until the year 1878, when they came to America and settled in Kossuth county, Iowa, where they invested in some railroad land, on which they lived until the year 1903, and then they moved to Otter Tail county, Minnesota, living there until, during the year 1905, they went to the town of Fergus Falls, where C. J. Peterson has since lived in retirement. C. J. and Christine Peterson are active and devout members of the Swedish Baptist church, a congregation in which they are highly respected and worthy communicants. To the marriage of C. J. and Christine Peterson have been born two sons, Elmer and Leonard.

Leonard Peterson was educated in the public schools of the state of Iowa, and afterward was employed as a farmer until the year 1903, when he came to Otter Tail county, Minnesota, where he worked as a farmer. In the year 1905 he took charge of the farm of his father-in-law, a place located in Western township, on which he lived for ten years. In the year 1911 Leonard Peterson bought a farm of two hundred and ten acres, and

moved to that place in the spring of the year 1915, and has since been located there, where he engages in general farming and in the feeding and the breeding of high-class Guernsey cattle, this together with the raising of Chester White hogs.

During the year 1904 Leonard Peterson was married to Caroline Rulland, the daughter of Iver Olson Rulland and wife, people who were among the early settlers and homesteaders of Western township, Otter Tail county. To the marriage of Leonard and Caroline Peterson were born the following children: Clifford, Birdie, Leonora and Carl.

Leonard Peterson is among the best known of the farmers of the community and is known as a man of public spirit and a man who is at all times willing to do his duty in matters having for their object the betterment of the community life. Mrs. Peterson is known as an active member of Our Savior's Norwegian Lutheran church, being prominent and conspicuous in the worship and work of that organization.

ERWIN FRED NEWMANN.

One of the best known of the farmers who have made a success of agricultural pursuits, while yet men young in years, is Erwin Fred Newmann, who on taking over the farm of his father, on the death of the elder Newmann, has so conducted the farm and has so tilled the soil that the place is among the most productive and most desirable farms of the community. Erwin F. Newmann, as a young citizen of Otter Tail county, has conducted himself in such a manner that he is one of the respected and appreciated men of Western township, to whom the people of the community are looking for the proper and intelligent management of the affairs of public life in the near future.

Erwin Fred Newman was born on the Newmann homestead in Western township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, on October 6, 1892, the son of Frederick and Tilda (Fabian) Newmann, both of whom were born in Germany. Frederick Newmann was educated in Germany and after serving in the German army for three years he came, at the age of twenty-two years, to America and located at Blue Earth, Minnesota, where he was employed at railroad work until the year 1882, when he came to Otter Tail county, Minnesota, and homesteaded a farm in Western township, on which Erwin Fred Newmann now lives. Some time after acquiring his original farm Frederick Newmann added by purchase a large acreage, until he was the owner of four hundred and twenty acres of valuable and desirable land in this county. Progressive and modern farmer that he was, Frederick Newmann placed extensive improvements on his farm and lived at this place.

with his wife, for some years, after which, on their death, the farm was turned over to Erwin Fred Newmann, the subject of this sketch.

Frederick Newmann and his family were all interested and devoted members of the German Evangelical church, where they attended regularly, and took an active part in the worship and works of the congregation.

Frederick and Tilda Newmann were the parents of ten children, as follow: William, Edith, Amelia, Emma, Adolph, John, Charles, Minnie, Rudolph and Erwin F. Minnie married Emil Vollbrecht, who died on June 30, 1914, and she is now keeping house for her brother, Erwin F.

Erwin Fred Newmann was educated in the public schools of Otter Tail county, and afterward worked on the Newmann home place until, on the death of his father, Frederick Newmann, Erwin F. became the possessor of two hundred and eighty-six acres of land, on which he now lives and does general farming. Erwin Fred Newmann, in addition to the general farm work, keeps a number of fine grade cattle, and has twenty cows for dairy purposes.

CHARLES YOUNGBERG.

A farmer who has been a thorough success, both in the pursuit of agricultural life, and as a citizen of worth to the community is Charles Youngberg, who was born in Sweden, October 10, 1870, the son of Isaac and Sarah Youngberg, both of whom were born in Sweden, where they now live. Isaac Youngberg is now a farmer in his native land, he previously having served as a soldier for his country, although he was not actively engaged in war. Isaac and Sarah Youngberg were the parents of seven children, five of whom are now living.

Charles Youngberg was educated in the public schools, where he attended classes until fifteen years of age and then came to America with his brother, Algot, who now lives at Elizabeth, Otter Tail county, Minnesota. On reaching America, Charles Youngberg immediately came to Otter Tail county, where he worked generally on farms for some time and then rented a farm which he operated, after which, in 1905, he bought one hundred and twenty acres of land in Western township, where he has since lived. Charles Youngberg, as a progressive and modern farmer, has greatly improved his farm and has secured the best equipment for agricultural pursuits, this with highly cultivated land makes Mr. Youngberg a farmer of the first rank in Western township and in Otter Tail county.

During the year 1913 Charles Youngberg was married to Nanna Nelson, who was born in Norway and at an early age came to this country, making the journey alone. To this marriage has been born one son, Carl Minart.

Charles Youngberg and his wife are members of the Swedish Lutheran church at Fergus Falls, Minnesota. Mr. Youngberg has taken no especial part in the political life of the community, but has preferred to serve as a good citizen in the more commonplace walks of life represented in the township. Charles Youngberg has been ever ready to serve his county in any way possible, and has been of that company of men who are of great value to the locality as citizens capable of doing many things for the advance of material and moral interests in the community.

HERMAN C. FABIAN.

A successful farmer, a heavy landowner, an extensive breeder and dealer in live stock and a man who, in the pursuit of agricultural life, has adopted the most approved and scientific methods, both as to equipment and as to processes, Herman C. Fabian has shown himself to be a citizen whose progressiveness and whose advanced ideas in farm effort are the pride of the community and are things which not only add to the convenience of the owner, but are important elements in the instruction and advancement of agricultural interests.

Herman C. Fabian is a native of Otter Tail county, having been born in Western township on April 15, 1873, the son of William and Augusta (Rolofo) Fabian, both of whom were born in Germany and later came to America and made their home in Otter Tail county, Minnesota.

Herman C. Fabian was educated in the public schools of Otter Tail county, after which he immediately engaged in agricultural pursuits, securing two hundred acres of land in Grant county, Minnesota, where he lived for some time and then purchased his present farm of six hundred and forty acres in Aastad township, where he has lived the greater part of a quarter of a century.

Of those farmers engaged in all branches of farm activity, probably no one is better or more widely known for their extensive dealings and for the scope of their work than is Herman C. Fabian, who not only farms on a large scale but is a breeder of purebred Brown Swiss cattle, animals which are recognized as among the finest to be found in the entire state or its vicinity. Mr. Fabian also engages as a breeder of Percheron and Belgian horses, this together with the feeding and the breeding of Poland and China and Duroc hogs.

During the year 1908 Herman C. Fabian designed and constructed what is known to the community as a model house for the care of dairy products and for the grinding of feed and grain. On the first floor of a well-built and neatly arranged house has been placed a gasoline engine, to which power has been attached the cream separator, the churn and the wash-

ing machine, while above on the second floor has been arranged a feed grinder so placed and connected as to automatically operate for the grinding of grain whenever any of the processes of the first floor equipment are in action. In the basement of this building has been arranged a cream cellar, a place that is at all times cool and well ventilated. A portion of this model building has also been set off as a garage, where Mr. Fabian stores and cares for his automobile.

A notable feature of the farm of Herman C. Fabian is the barn, a structure which, though forty by one hundred feet in dimensions and one of the largest barns to be found in the entire county, was erected in the record time of one hundred and forty-six hours. In keeping with the other improvements of this modern farmer, this barn is well equipped and well arranged for the care of extensive holdings of horses, hogs and some fifteen head of cows used for dairy purposes.

On March 24, 1898, Herman C. Fabian was married to Emma Smith, who was born in Friburg township, the daughter of Ferdinand and Amanda (Zuehlscloft) Smith. To this marriage were born three children, Alfred, Earl and William.

Herman C. Fabian and his wife are members of the German Lutheran church, a congregation in which they are highly respected, and a church which Mr. and Mrs. Fabian, with their children, support in a most hearty manner.

In political life, Herman C. Fabian has taken no especial part, but has served well as an individual citizen and is known as a man who will support all movements and measures for the good of the community or its people. A man who is friendly and of pleasing personality and a citizen who makes of "South Central Grove Stock Farm" a hospitable and cordial place in the township, Herman C. Fabian is a man with a host of friends and admiring fellow citizens.

TOBIAS SIMONSON LIEN.

Of those men who of earlier days were an important part of the community life, citizens who supported all things for public good, and men who were willing to give of their time and energies, even to the point of sacrifice, that conditions might be better for those who follow, the name of Tobias Simonson Lien, who has gone to his reward, stands out conspicuously as one whose unselfishness and public-spirited nature accomplished great things for Otter Tail county and for Tumuli township.

Tobias Simonson Lien was born in Norway on March 26, 1857, the son of Simon Lien, who was born in Norway and lived in that country during his entire life, Simon Lien being a farmer.

Tobias Simonson Lien received his education in the public schools of his native land, after which he worked as a farmer for some time and then marrying, he came with his wife to America, in the year 1882, and located in Aastad township, this county, where for a time he rented a farm and then later bought the place where he lived for the remainder of his life and there his widow now lives. The farm of Tobias Simonson Lien was well improved by this worthy farmer and citizen, who left no thing undone that his home place might be attractive and convenient for residence and for agricultural purposes.

The wife of Tobias S. Lien was Ann Burg, daughter of well-known and highly-respected people in Norway, who are now deceased. To the marriage of Tobias and Ann Lien were born the following children: Amund, Mary, Martha, Thea, Sophia, Sigvert, Thoralf, Alfred, Adolph, Emma, Emilia, Oscar, Amanda and Edwin.

Tobias Simonson Lien was an active member of the Norwegian Lutheran church at Dalton, Minnesota, a congregation in which his death has caused much of the sense of the loss of a good and worthy man.

Tobias Simonson Lien did not aspire to public office but was a man of quiet and retiring disposition, one who preferred to serve well and conscientiously from the ranks of common citizenship.

Tobias Simonson Lien died on July 13, 1913, mourned by many friends and fellow citizens.

CHRISTIAN JORGENSEN.

A man who has taken a leading place in the circles of his activity, whether in business, trade or in public office, and a man who by the trend of his life has won a host of friends, is Christian Jorgensen, who was born in Denmark, February 11, 1863, the son of Jorgen and Anna (Rasmussen) Christiansen, who were natives of Denmark and lived in that country during their entire lives. Jorgen Christiansen was a farmer of his native land, and was the son of Jorgen Jorgensen, who also followed agricultural pursuits, until his death.

Christian Jorgensen received his education in the public schools of Denmark, after which he learned the blacksmith's trade, which he followed for a time in his native country. In the year 1887 Christian Jorgensen came to America and located at Sioux City, Iowa, where he continued at his trade for some years and then moved to Rock county, Minnesota, where he engaged in general blacksmith work until the year 1908, when he retired from trade and rented a farm for three years, after which he came to Western township, where he now lives on a farm of one hundred and sixty acres of well-improved and well-cultivated land.

During the year 1884 Christian Jorgensen was married to Sophia Carlson, who was born in Sweden, and who at an early age went to the country of Denmark, where she was married to Mr. Jorgensen. After thirteen years of happy married life Sophia (Carlson) Jorgensen died. Christian Jorgensen, during the year 1868, was married, secondly, to Juliane M. Olson, who was born in Norway, came to America alone and settled in the state of Minnesota. The following children were born to Christian and Juliane Jorgensen: Sophia, Anna, Sigvard, Marie, Dagmar, Ove, Hans, Elmer and Vera.

Christian Jorgensen has served this and other communities as an occupant of the office of school director and during the term of his office has done many things for the advancement and promotion of the interests of the public schools. Mr. Jorgensen is now one of the influential members of the school board of Western township. In church circles Christian Jorgensen is a member of the local Presbyterian church.

HANS S. BERGERUD.

A well-known and prosperous farmer of Otter Tail county and of Aastad township, one who has been loyal to the community in matters of citizenship, and one who because of his unselfish nature and on account of his sense of duty to the welfare and progress of life and affairs of the locality, has won for himself a place of respect and esteem in the hearts of the local people, is Hans S. Bergerud, who was born on the family homestead in Western township, Otter Tail county, on September 5, 1873, the son of Stengrim and Mary (Olson) Hansen, whose lives are reviewed elsewhere in this volume.

Hans S. Bergerud was educated in the public schools of Otter Tail county, after which he became a farmer, purchasing two hundred and fifteen acres of land in Aastad township, where he now lives and pursues general agricultural life, producing excellent crops on his well-tilled soil, and also keeping some purebred cattle, which are used for breeding purposes. The farm of Hans S. Bergerud is well improved, has first-class equipment and is conducted on modern and approved methods.

During the year 1904 Hans S. Bergerud was married to Helen B. Ryden, who was born in Doring, Minnesota, the daughter of Peter O. and Ragnild (Iverson) Ryden. To the marriage of Hans S. and Helen Bergerud have been born six children: Roy, Ernest, Palmer, Linden and Lila, twins, and Harry.

In the political and public life of Aastad township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, Hans S. Bergerud is well and favorably known as a man of tact and of special ability in the matters which have come before him as an

official in the capacity of clerk of the school district, an office with which this worthy citizen has been honored for more than six years.

Hans S. Bergerud and his wife are earnest and devout members of the Norwegian Lutheran church and are people whose efforts in support of the policies and activities of this congregation are greatly appreciated.

STENGRIM HANSEN.

A veteran of the Civil War, one who took part in many of its most important engagements, a citizen who in local life has proved himself of great value to the community, and who has been a most important part of the development of those things which have done much for the moral and physical betterment of the township and county, and a man who has made a host of admiring friends as the result of his useful and unselfish life, is Stengrim Hansen, who was born in Norway, October 22, 1843, the son of Hans S. and Martha (Kupsing) Bergerud.

Hans S. Bergerud, following the death of his wife, Martha, came to America and settled in Otter Tail county, Minnesota, in the year 1872, living with his sons, Erik and Christian, for a time. Hans S. Bergerud then took up a homestead of eighty acres of land in Aastad township, land which his son, Stengrim, the subject of this sketch, had pre-empted at an earlier time, it being what was known as "double-priced" land. Some time later Hans S. Bergerud was married, secondly, to Mary Olson, who was born in Norway, and who came to this country about the same time as Mr. Bergerud. Hans S. Bergerud suffered the loss of his second wife in death after some time and then went to live with his son, Christian, dying at that place. Hans S. and Martha (Kupsing) Bergerud were the parents of the following children: Gunell, Thorston, Stengrim, Erik, Christian and Christopher. To the marriage of Hans and Mary (Olson) Bergerud were born four children, as follow: Martin, Olena, Andrena and Gunell.

Stengrim Hansen, the subject of this sketch, received his education in the public schools of Norway. With his sister, Gunell, and her husband, he came to America in the year 1861 and went to the state of Iowa, where they located in Winneshiek county, living there for a short time. Stengrim Hansen enlisted as a volunteer in the Sixth Iowa Cavalry, and served with that regiment for the remainder of the Civil War, after which he continued as a cavalryman and took part in many of the engagements while clearing the Indians from the states of North and South Dakota. Following his experience as a soldier, Stengrim Hansen returned to the state of Iowa and worked as a farmer on eighty acres of land which he owned until the year 1871, when he sold his land in Iowa and came to Otter Tail county, Minnesota, where he homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of land in Western

township, later adding, by purchase, one hundred and sixty acres more. On this land Stengrim Hansen placed many improvements and now lives at this place, engaging in general farming pursuits. Mr. Hansen has also "free claimed" fifty-five acres adjoining his farm and running along the lake.

During the year 1869 Stengrim Hansen was married to Mary Olson, who was born in Norway and came to America with her parents, who located in Winneshiek county, Iowa. To the marriage of Stengrim and Mary Hansen were born the following children: Martha, Ole, Hans, Gunell, Theodore, Gustav, Martin, Gilbert and Edward, who died at the age of twenty-seven years.

Few men have been more loyal to their faith and church than has Stengrim Hansen, who has aided in the construction of three churches of the Norwegian Lutheran denomination in Western township. As a member of his church Mr. Hansen is esteemed and honored, not only for the part that he has done for the people of his faith, but on account of his good and his unselfish life. Stengrim Hansen is no less honored in the town of Fergus Falls, where the St. Luke's hospital was made possible largely due to the efforts and sacrifices of this worthy man.

In political life Stengrim Hansen has taken no especial part but has preferred to serve his community in other ways, the results of which will long be to the good of the locality and its various life and interests.

IVER OLSON RULLAND.

One of the prosperous and well-to-do farmers of Otter Tail county and of Western township, a man who has taken a notable place in the public life of the township, and one who as a result of progressive thought has done much for the advancement of the community interests, is Iver Olson Rulland, who was born in Norway, January 15, 1831, the son of Ole and Helga Rulland, who lived and died in their native land of Norway.

Iver Olson Rulland was educated in Norway, where he lived until after his marriage. In the year 1865 he came to America with his wife and settled in the state of Wisconsin, where they lived for about seven years and then moved to Western township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, where Mr. Rulland homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of land, a place on which he has placed extensive improvements and where he now lives. From time to time Iver O. Rulland added to his original farm until he now is the owner of four hundred and six acres of land, all well improved and in a high state of cultivation.

During the year 1860 Iver Olson Rulland was married to Bertha Bredveien, daughter of a well-known farmer of Norway. To the marriage of

Iver and Bertha Rulland have been born the following children: Caroline, who married Leo Peterson; Toneta and Ida.

Iver Olson Rulland, in the public life of Western township, has served efficiently and well as treasurer of the school board and has at all times held himself in readiness to be of any possible service to his community, either in public office, with its sacrifices, or as a private citizen prepared to throw his influence and his efforts towards a better and more advanced township and county.

Iver Olson Rulland is a prominent member of the Norwegian Lutheran church, one who is highly respected and appreciated for his work in the congregation.

HALVOR P. LIGAARD.

Among those hard-working Norsemen who have fought for honor both in their native land and in the land of their adoption, is Halvor P. Ligaard, who emigrated to America in 1882 and came direct to Tumuli township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, where his cousin, Erik Ingebjctson, had a home. He is the son of Peter Halverson and Segri (Olsdatter) Ligaard, both natives of Norway and farmers in that country, their farm home being known as "Ligaard." Halvor P. Ligaard was born on March 27, 1859, and is one of six children born to the union of his parents. The names of the children follow: Maggie, Thora, Halvor P., Halga, Ann and Segrid. Segri (Olsdatter) Ligaard emigrated to America after the death of her husband and spent the last fifteen years of her life in this country, with her children. Her death occurred on April 1, 1910.

Halvor P. Ligaard became the employee of James Woodward immediately after his arrival in the United States, and remained in his service for a period of seven years, but at the close of five years had saved the wherewithal to purchase a farm. He purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land of Ole Hendricks, which was entirely unimproved, but is, at the present time, very well improved with substantial buildings and has a barn seventy eight by fifty-eight feet in dimensions. Eighty acres has been added to the original property, and it is all improved.

The paternal grandparents of Halvor P. Ligaard were Halvor Ligaard and his wife, natives of Norway, who remained in their native land until their deaths. The maternal grandparents of Halvor P. Ligaard were Ole and Thea (Water) Olsdatter, also natives Norway, who lived and died in that country. Ole Olsdatter was born in the town of Pipargarden and his wife, Thea (Water) Olsdatter, was born in Vethrus.

Halvor P. Ligaard has met with some misfortune but has persevered in spite of all and now is enjoying the reward of his labors. On June 27,

1915, his barn was destroyed by fire but he immediately replaced it by another one. The former one was built in August, 1900. The two sisters of Halvor P. Ligaard, Helga and Segrid, share the comforts of his home, and all are members of the Rock Prairie Lutheran church. Halvor Asleson and Ingelbritson, both paternal cousins of Halvor P. Ligaard, were soldiers in the Civil War and fought bravely for the principles of their adopted country, Halvor Asleson having died in service. For some years Halvor P. Ligaard served as a member of the school board and at all times has served the community to the best of his ability.

THORSTEN P. HEGSETH.

Thorsten P. Hegseth, leading farmer and stock raiser, and prominent man of business, in Oscar township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, was born in Norway, March 1, 1842, the son of Peter T. and Beret Hegseth, both of whom were natives of Norway. Peter Hegseth was a farmer of his native land, an occupation which he followed there, until he came to America and located in Otter Tail county, Minnesota, in 1866. Peter T. and Beret Hegseth were the parents of six children.

Thorsten P. Hegseth was educated in the common schools of Norway, after which he came to America, in 1866, and following his landing at Quebec, Canada, he located in Olmstad county, Minnesota, where he worked for about two years and in 1869 came to Otter Tail county and homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of land in section 33, Oscar township. On his land Mr. Hegseth has placed good improvements, and from time to time this progressive farmer has added to his land until he now owns three hundred and forty acres of well cultivated land. Thorsten P. Hegseth now engages in general farming and in the raising of Durham cattle and Poland China hogs.

During the year 1866, two days before sailing for America, Thorsten P. Hegseth was married to Mali Evjen, and to this marriage have been born the following children: Christine, who married P. P. Moen; Petrina, who married Peter Fjestad; Peter, who married Inga Iverson; Nils T., who married Betsey Lystad, and Mollie, who is unmarried. T. P. Hegseth and his family are members of the Norwegian Lutheran church.

T. P. Hegseth is a stockholder of the Carlisle Elevator Company, and is a stockholder of the Carlisle Bank, of Carlisle, Minnesota, and is a man who takes a leading part in all public measures and movements for the interest of the community.

Mali (Evjen) Hegseth is the daughter of Kristian Evjen and wife, natives of Norway, where the elder Evjen was a farmer and made his home during his entire life.

OLE THURNSELLE.

That honesty of purpose and conscientious service have been the dominant factors in the career of Ole Thurnshelle, a farmer of Tumuli township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, is evidenced in the fact that he has been school treasurer for a period of sixteen years. Ole Thurnshelle is a native son of Norway and his birth occurred on June 25, 1849. He is the son of Thorston and Ingeborg (Gjelum) Thurnshelle, both natives of Norway, in which country they lived and died. They were the parents of five children, Ole Thurnshelle, being the youngest. The names of these children are: Ingeborg, Martha, Bertha, Simon and Ole.

Ole Thurnshelle is indebted to the schools of his native land for his education, which was completed at an early age. In 1870 he emigrated to America, where he located in Goodhue county, Minnesota, for a period of three years, after which he purchased a homestead on which he still resides. This land contained one hundred and sixty acres and was unimproved, but with thrift and perseverance, which are the dominant traits of the sons and daughters of Norway, Ole Thurnshelle has made all improvements necessary to the proper cultivation of his farm and has added one hundred and sixty acres to the original quarter section. In 1876 Ole Thurnshelle was united in marriage to Ellen S. Vangnes, of Norwegian parentage. Six children have been born to this union, namely: Severt, Oscar, Emma, Alice, Mary and Edwin. Ole Thurnshelle and his wife, Ellen S. (Vangnes) Thurnshelle, are both members of the Norwegian Lutheran church and are earnest and active in the support of this denomination.

JOHN J. SETHER.

Among the well-known and successful farmers of Oscar township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, is John J. Sether, who was born on the old Sether farm, in Oscar township, Otter Tail county, on March 2, 1871, the son of John J. and Mary (Serum) Sether, natives of Norway. John J. Sether came to America in 1860 and located in Otter Tail county, Minnesota, where he homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of land in Oscar township, and pre-empted forty-five acres in section 34, Oscar township, a farm which the elder Sether cultivated until 1913, when he retired and moved to Fillmore county, Minnesota. Mary, the wife of John J. Sether, Sr., died on March 5, 1883. John J. and Mary Sether were the parents of four children, John, Ole, Lena and Annie. The elder Sether and his wife were leading members of the Norwegian Lutheran church, of Oscar township.

John J. Sether, the subject of this sketch, was educated in the public

schools of Oscar township, after which he became a farmer on the home farm, a place which he has since cultivated. As a farmer, Mr. Sether makes a specialty of all kinds of live stock, he being especially successful in the breeding of Poland China hogs. John J. Sether has improved his farm with a modern house, a splendid barn, and he has equipped his farm with the most approved and modern machinery and implements.

On June 20, 1901, John J. Sether was married to Ida Skisthad, who was born in Fergus Falls township on February 7, 1873, the daughter of Iver and Synera (Hilestad) Skisthad, well-known people of Otter Tail county, Minnesota. To the marriage of John J. and Ida Sether have been born five children: Ida, Haakon, Sannah, Sigrad and Ingward. Mrs. John J. Sether's mother died on April 9, 1914. Mr. Sether and his children are members of the Norwegian Lutheran church, a congregation in which John J. Sether is known as one of the most interested and devout workers.

CARL D. HAUGEN.

The task of the biographer is not an easy one in attempting to intelligently present the history of a prominent business man in any community within the limited space allowed in a volume of this character; therefore, only a few of the most important events in the life of Carl D. Haugen are here presented for perusal.

Carl D. Haugen, implement dealer, Pelican Rapids, Otter Tail county, was born on October 25, 1873, in Rock county, Minnesota, and is a son of Nels and Martha (Engebretson) Haugen. He received his early education at the public schools of Pelican Rapids, and later attended the Lutheran College at Decorah, Iowa, for three years, from 1889 to the spring of 1893. After completing his education he engaged in the implement business at Pelican Rapids, in partnership with his father, who retired from active business in 1911, the interest of his father being taken by his brother, Edward, and the business is now conducted under the firm name of Haugen Brothers, who do a general implement business, handling all kinds of farm implements and farmers' supplies. Mr. Haugen is an attentive member of the Norwegian Lutheran church, in the work of which he takes an active part. He is a public spirited man, and has officiated as town president for many years; is a member of the town board, member of the school board, and is vice-president of the First National Bank of Pelican Rapids. He is also president of the Pelican Telephone Company.

Nels Haugen, father of the subject of this sketch, was born in Hellingdal, Norway, and was united in marriage with Martha Engebretson, a native of Rock county, Wisconsin. When three years of age, he came to America with his parents, who located in Rock county, Wisconsin, where

he grew to manhood. In 1882 he moved to Otter Tail county, finally settling at Pelican Rapids, where he engaged in the implement business, and bought and sold horses, shipping them in large numbers. In 1911 Mr. Haugen retired from active business. Politically, he is a staunch Republican, while his religious sympathies are with the Norwegian Lutheran church, and he has been actively interested in the advancement of his township. To Nels and Martha (Engelbretson) Haugen have been born three children: Carl D., Christine, who became the wife of Reverend Ovri, and Eddie N.

Carl D. Haugen was united in marriage, in 1901, with Lottie M. Blyberg, daughter of O. A. E. Blyberg, to which marriage have been born two children, Edmund B. and Douglas C.

Eddie N. Haugen, brother of the subject of this sketch, was born on February 7, 1880, in Rock county, Wisconsin. His early education was received at the public schools of Pelican Rapids, and later he attended school at Fergus Falls, completing his education at the Lutheran College at that place, after which he took a course at the Minnesota State Agricultural College. In 1911 he engaged in the implement business with his brother as a partner, under the firm name of Haugen Brothers.

Carl D. Haugen represents twentieth century progressiveness, and in his well-equipped establishment handles the latest and most approved class of farm implements, and through his pleasant and agreeable manner of handling his customers his name is favorably known throughout the county.

ERIC SMITH.

Eric Smith, a native of Sweden, was born on October 27, 1881, and came with his parents, Olaf and Mary Smith, to the United States in 1883. The family having landed at Castle Garden, New York, came direct to Otter Tail county. Here the father, at first, purchased eighty acres of land and later forty acres more of railroad land. At the time of his retirement to Fergus Falls, in 1914, he owned five hundred and thirty acres of well-improved land. Previous to his retirement he had turned the management of the farm over to his son, Eric.

Olaf Smith and wife are the parents of six children: Andrew, Ole, Eric, Mary, Carrie and Anna. Andrew married Amanda Holmgren, who died some time ago. He is now living in Canada. Ole is still single and lives at home with his parents. The family are members of the Swedish Baptist church and take an active interest in its work. Mr. Smith was for a time school treasurer and is a stockholder in the Farmers Elevator Company; he also owns stock in the Creamery Company of Rothsay.

Eric Smith was educated in the common schools of Oscar township and had one year's work in a business college. On September 4, 1910, he

and Marion Peterson were united in marriage and they are the parents of one child, Vivian.

In 1910 Eric Smith bought two hundred acres of the home place, he already owning a one-half interest in forty acres that adjoined. The farm is well improved and the buildings, most of which were erected by his father, are kept in excellent repair.

Mr. Smith is a most successful and progressive farmer, and is held in high esteem by the people of his home county. He is at present clerk of the school district.

CHRISTIAN P. SETHRE.

Christian P. Sethre is a native of Norway, having been born in that country on February 2, 1862, a son of Peter and Gunhild (Berger) Sethre, and came to America with his parents in 1867. The family, after landing at Quebec, came directly to Minnesota. The life history of the parents is more fully set out in the sketch of Hans P. Sethre, presented elsewhere in this volume.

Christian P. Sethre was reared on his father's farm in Otter Tail county and received his education in the common schools of that county. He was married on April 8, 1885, to Lora Thrugstad, who was born in Fillmore county, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Henrik Thrugstad.

To Mr. and Mrs. Sethre the following children have been born: Anna, Helen, Edna, Harry, Martha, Martin, Carl and Leonard. Anna is married. Martin and Martha are twins.

Mr. Sethre bought the home place where he now resides in 1881 but was too young to get the deed for the place at that time. The original farm consisted of one hundred and sixty acres, but to this has been added forty acres and he now owns two hundred acres. Most of the farm is cleared and well improved. The greater part of the improvements have been placed by Mr. Sethre. The splendid new house was built in 1903, the large barn, thirty-eight by eighty feet, was completed in 1910 and the silo erected in 1914.

Mr. Sethre practices general farming and is an extensive breeder of Shorthorn cattle and Poland China hogs. He takes the greatest interest in the development of his farm and the care of his stock.

The family are active members of the Lutheran church and take much interest in its growth and success. Mr. Sethre is a man who enjoys the confidence and esteem of all who know him. He is progressive and active in all that pertains to the home and the community. He is a stockholder in the Carlisle Bank and in the Farmers Elevator Company.

GUSTAF A. LINDQUIST.

Few men have been more prominent in the official life of Fergus Falls than Gustaf A. Lindquist, who has been a resident of Otter Tail county for many years and who during the eighties, after having been elected to the office of treasurer of Otter Tail county, filled the office for eight years and ten months. Furthermore, he has held practically all of the municipal offices within the gift of the people of Fergus Falls and, as long ago as 1869, served as the first town clerk of Parkers Prairie immediately after its organization as a municipality. It would be expected, therefore, that Mr. Lindquist is well known to the people of Fergus Falls and Otter Tail county. Not only is he well known, but in his long and useful life he has commanded the esteem and respect of his neighbors and fellow townsmen.

Gustaf A. Lindquist was born on October 30, 1837, in Smoland, situated in the southern part of Sweden, the son of Jonas and Kate (Nelson) Lindquist. With his brothers, Peter N. and Frank A., he came to America in August, 1867, and after arriving in America lived for a time at Center City, Chicago county, Minnesota, during his first winter in America, working in a store and attending school, with a view to improving his knowledge of English. Later he went to Osceola, where he worked in a hotel and continued his English schooling. In April, 1868, Mr. Lindquist returned to Sweden and brought back with him to America his father, mother and sister, Christine, the latter of whom is now Mrs. Olson, of the state of California. Both of Mr. Lindquist's parents are now deceased.

Upon his return to America, Gustaf A. Lindquist came West to the St. Croix valley, where he left his parents and, in company with John G. Nelson, engaged in prospecting land. He finally settled at Parkers Prairie, Otter Tail county, where he continued farming for fourteen years. In 1881 Mr. Lindquist was elected treasurer of the county and the next year moved to Fergus Falls, filling the office altogether eight years and ten months. This long tenure in itself is the best proof that can be cited of the efficiency with which he discharged the duties of this important office and of his popularity as a public servant. Upon the expiration of his term of office, Mr. Lindquist purchased a dray line, which he still operates.

By his marriage to Mrs. Johanna (Nelson) Leffler, the daughter of Swan and Christine (Jenson) Nelson, who was born in Sweden and who came to America with her parents in 1853, and who has one son, Fred, by her previous marriage. Mr. Lindquist has had eight children, namely: Albert J., who married Emma Hegro and is a merchant in Minneapolis; Charles O., who lives at home; Henry E., who married Alice Vanderlip, of Boston, Massachusetts, and has one son, Richard; Walter A., who married



MR. AND MRS. GUSTAF A. LINQVIST.

Edith Atkinson, and has two children, Willard and Aileen; Emilie, who married John F. McGrath; Helma and Helda (twins), the former of whom is a teacher at Marshall, Minnesota, and the latter, at Fairbault, Minnesota, and Edward A., who is a resident of Fergus Falls. Mrs. Lindquist, after coming to America with her parents in 1853, accompanied them West to the St. Croix valley, where her father, Swan Nelson, enlisted as a soldier in the Union army during the great Civil War. During this war he contracted a fatal disease and did not return from the service.

Mr. and Mrs. Lindquist have reared a large and industrious family, children who are doing well their respective parts in the various communities in which they live and who are performing admirably the duties of honorable and upright citizens.

The venerable Gustaf A. Lindquist retains a very vivid recollection of pioneer days in Otter Tail county and his fund of reminiscences relating to those days prove an inexhaustible source of entertainment for his friends. He helped to cut the first road from Parkers Prairie to Otter Tail city, the task requiring a full week, he and his companions being compelled to camp out in the snow during the time they were thus engaged, and he hauled the first load of lumber from Otter Tail city to Parkers Prairie, the trip, with ox teams, requiring three days. Mr. Lindquist acted as a guide to Charles Peake, the first mail carrier in Otter Tail county, whose route was from Osakis, on the eastern edge of Douglas county, through Parkers Prairie to Otter Tail city, then the county seat of this county. The pioneer mail carrier reached Parkers Prairie on July 4, 1870, on his first trip, and on the next day, started at four o'clock in the morning. Mr. Lindquist started out to guide him through the timber, on foot, to Otter Tail city, nearly thirty miles away, which place was reached shortly after three o'clock in the afternoon of July 5. There they found five hundred Chippewa Indians rounding out a two-days celebration of the Fourth of July, during which they had been having horse races and games in the day time and dancing and drinking at night.

The following bit of reminiscence from the pen of Mr. Lindquist, copied from the files of the *Fergus Falls Journal* of thirty years ago, will prove of general interest to the readers of this history: "Together with three other residents of Parkers Prairie, I had the worst experience of my life, on the 8th and 9th of January, 1873, which was by far the most severe and fatal in its effects of any storm of which there is any record in Minnesota. It is doubtless desirable to place in print such experiences as historical data.

"On the morning of the 8th of January, at six o'clock, P. O. Nelson,
(12h)

John N. Nelson, Peter N. Lindquist and myself, each driving an ox team and sled loaded with wheat, started from Parkers Prairie for Otter Tail city, a distance of twenty-five miles, which will be conceded to be a big drive for oxen in one day. Not a single settler lived on the road. The weather was calm, cloudy and warm, so that a few rain drops fell about daylight. The snow being middling deep and the road but little traveled, our progress was slow.

"Shortly before reaching East Battle Lake two men on foot walked past us—also bound for Otter Tail city and while we were feeding our teams at the east end of East Battle Lake, C. P. Smith, who was driving his ox team, but without a load, also passed us and with him were John Knight, then a resident of Parkers Prairie and Otto Buse of Millerville.

"The wind had changed to the northwest and snow began to fall about ten o'clock and in the afternoon the wind as well as the snowfall, increased in severity so that by two o'clock it was impossible to see more than a few rods ahead at any time and it grew cold rapidly.

"When we came to the edge of the prairie in Girard we concluded it was suicidal to try to go farther and the oxen could not be forced to go against the wind. Besides we had to hunt for the road, as the track was becoming entirely obliterated. After a short consultation we turned back into a poplar thicket we had just passed, behind a low ridge and immediately went to work preparing to camp out in what proved to be the worst blizzard before or since known. We first tied our oxen close together in the best sheltered place we could find and covered them with blankets; then emptying two sled boxes of their sacks, we raised them on edge in shape of an L, with the angle pointing toward the northwest to break off the wind as much as possible. Our next effort was to kindle a fire with dry poplar brush. As the cold was rapidly becoming more intense, and the snow was beginning to fill the air, we kept up a fire all night. We made coffee and ate our lunch, taking turns in cutting and dragging brush for the fire. The next morning we decided to try and get home that day if possible. We left our wheat covered up in the snow, hitched two yokes of oxen to empty sleds, and with our camping outfit started for home about nine o'clock in the morning. One man walked ahead all the time to look for the road and avoid drifts. Every half hour he would be relieved and would crawl into the sled and cover up with blankets. In this way each took his share of the hardships and none of us became entirely exhausted. At times we encountered impassable snowdrifts. Thus we worked all day and succeeded in reaching home about dark on the 9th, very much tired out. The greatest care had to be taken that no one should fall asleep, as with the intense cold and our tired condition it would have proved our last sleep.

"Meantime, Smith, Knight and Buse succeeded in reaching a grove on the banks of a creek near Gourd lake in Girard town where they passed a wretched night in camp and reached Otter Tail lake next day after receiving assistance from a couple of farmers living a mile or two south of Otter Tail. Smith and his oxen could go no further, and Knight and Buse reached the houses of these settlers, who at once went to Smith's relief.

"The five men who had passed us on the 8th reached Otter Tail, and nothing was heard of us on the 9th or 10th. They supposed that our party had perished and we were counted among the great number that were lost in that memorable storm, and such a statement was telegraphed to St. Paul. Parties who traveled on foot from Otter Tail to Parkers Prairie two days after the storm was over, looked carefully by the way for signs of us, and they expected to find four men and teams stiff and half covered with snow. They found our camping place where one or two acres was completely cleared of brush and poplar trees. All our tracks were completely covered by the hard packed snow. It is needless to say that when they found us all at home and well, their gloomy forebodings were changed to rejoicing."

OLE J. LYSTAD.

Ole J. Lystad, a native of Norway, having been born in that country on July 6, 1848, is the son of John and Alma (Torpit) Lystad, both of whom were natives of Norway. The grandfather of Ole J. Lystad, Ole Lystad, was a farmer in the native country, and here he lived and died. The parents of Ole J. never ventured to found a new home in America but lived their life in Norway, where the father died in 1864 and the mother in 1873. The father was a farmer but had devoted a part of his life as a soldier in the wars of his country. They were the parents of three children: Ole, Frederick, deceased, and Betsy, who still resides in Norway.

Ole J. Lystad received his education in the school of his native country and came to the United States as a young man and unmarried, in 1872. He landed at New York City and traveled direct to Red Wing, Minnesota, where he remained six months, working on a farm. Locating in Fergus Falls, he purchased one hundred and twenty acres of land on which a part of the town of Carlisle is now situated. This land he sold after a short time and in 1883 bought one hundred and sixty acres in section 28, Oscar township, where he now resides, and where he owns two hundred and fifty acres.

In 1886 he built a new house, which he rebuilt and modernized in 1895. He built his large and well-arranged barn in 1892. Mr. Lystad does general farming and raises much stock, although he is not interested in developing the registered animals his stock is all high grade. He is the

owner of stock in the elevator at Carlisle and takes an active interest in its growth.

In 1886 Ole J. Lystad was united in marriage to Mathea Amundson-berg, and to this union were born three children, Betsy, Julius and Henry. Betsy and Julius are married and have established homes of their own. The family are members of the Lutheran church, in the work of which they take great interest.

HANS P. SETHRE.

Hans P. Sethre, a native of Norway, was born on October 30, 1848, the son of Peter and Gunhild (Berger) Sethre. The grandfather, Hans Sethre, and the great-grandfather, Elias Sethre, as well as the great-great-grandfather, Andres Sethre, were all tillers of the soil in their native country. The grandfather also owned and operated a freight boat on Lake Mjosen. The families were all active and devout members of the Lutheran church.

Peter Sethre received his education in his native country. He was a farmer and assisted his father in the operation of his freight boat on Lake Mjosen. In 1867, with his family, he came to America on a sailing vessel and after a voyage lasting from April 11 to May 29, they landed at Quebec. They moved at once to Fillmore county, Minnesota, making the long journey by railroad, steam boat and with horses. They remained there for two years, the father working on a farm as a farm hand, and as a day laborer. On May 29, 1869, they left their home of two years and made the journey of four hundred miles to Otter Tail county, arriving at their destination on June 22, of the same year. Here they homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of land in section 35, Oscar township. Here the father died in 1887, the mother having died in June, 1884. They were the parents of the following children: Hans P., Ole (deceased), Julia, Martina (deceased), Christian, Maren and Olef.

Hans P. Sethre received his education in the common schools of Norway and four months in Fillmore county. As a boy he worked on the farm and when he came to Minnesota he freighted west from Morris, going as far as Pembina on the north. He came to America with his parents. Mr. and Mrs. Hans P. Sethre were the parents of the following children: Mary, Lora, Peter and Olga, all of whom are married. Hans P. Sethre homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of land in section 35, Oscar township, this county, and here he made his home until the spring of 1915 when he moved to Fergus Falls where he lives a retired life. In 1914 he returned to Norway to visit relatives and friends. Mr. Sethre had added to his homestead farm until he had four hundred acres. The greater part of his land he has sold to his children, Peter owning the home place of two hun-

dred and forty acres. The land was all developed and improved by Mr. Sethre, the house being built in 1882 and the barn, a structure fifty-two by seventy-six feet, was erected in 1903. He owns a fine home in Fergus Falls in which he now lives.

Mr. Sethre has had an active life full of successful efforts and good deeds. He has served as chairman and treasurer of the board of supervisors of his township, clerk of the school district for twenty years, secretary of the Lutheran church for years, and was Federal census enumerator for his district in two successive decades. He is a stockholder in the Scandia State Bank at Fergus Falls and in the bank at Carlisle also in the Otter Tail Power Company and the Woolen mills.

LARS L. ONSUM.

Living in retirement at Pelican Rapids, the gentleman whose successful history is here briefly presented is enjoying the result of his years of industry and effort in the agricultural and commercial world. He has for years been greatly interested in the advancement of the community in which he has lived, and the enthusiasm aroused by his activities has continued as a factor in the prosperous town of Pelican Rapids.

Lars L. Onsum, retired farmer, Pelican Rapids, Otter Tail county, was born on June 26, 1847, in Norway, and is a son of Lars Targersen Onsum, and his wife, Kjerste (Aasen) Onsum. His education was received at the public schools of his native land, after which he remained under the parental roof until 1860, when he came to America, stopping about two and a half years in Fillmore county, Minnesota. In March, 1872, he came to Otter Tail county, locating in Pelican township, where he bought one hundred and sixty acres, two miles northwest of Pelican Rapids, on which he put all the improvements. After thoroughly establishing himself in his agricultural pursuits, Mr. Onsum opened a furniture store at Pelican Rapids, which he operated in connection with his farm, until 1895, when he left the farm and moved his family to Pelican Rapids, where he has since resided. About 1898 he sold his furniture store and in 1899 started a drug store, which he conducted until 1903, when he sold out to his partner and retired from an active business life. Mr. Onsum now owns two hundred acres of fine farm land in Pelican township. Politically, he has always given his support to the Republican party, in the local politics of which he has taken an active part, serving in the town council for two years. He is a member of the Norwegian Lutheran church, to which he contributes liberally.

Lars Targersen Onsum, father of the subject of this sketch, was born in Norway, as was also his wife, Kjerste (Aason) Onsum. Mr. Onsum died before Lars L. was born. This union was blest with seven children.

After the death of her husband, Mrs. Onsum was again married, and became the mother of two children by her second husband.

Lars L. Onsum was united in marriage, in 1887, with Karen Onsum, to which union four children have been born: Clara, Laura, Matilda and Leopold.

Mr. Onsum is justly popular in his home community, where he not only has the happy faculty of winning friends, but holding them by his sterling qualities.

JENS A. STORTROEN.

Probably none of the leading citizens of the town of Dalton, in Otter Tail county, Minnesota, have taken a more honored or more conspicuous place in the public life and general affairs of the community, than has Jens A. Stortroen, who, as a prominent office holder, an enterprising merchant and a citizen who has had a part in the establishment and the incorporation of the town of Dalton, has won a place of permanence in the records and history of the community.

Jens A. Stortroen was born in Martill, Wisconsin, on July 8, 1862, the son of Andres and Segre (Bjerken) Stortroen, both of whom were born in Norway, the father coming to America alone, and the mother coming to this country with her parents. Andres Stortroen was the son of Jens and Ingeborg Stortroen, who were natives of Norway and lived in that country, where Jens Stortroen was a farmer, during their entire lives. Segre Bjerken is the daughter of Paul and Segre Bjerken, who were born in Norway, came to America in the year 1856, and located in the state of Wisconsin, where Paul Bjerken was a farmer, and where they both spent their last days.

Andres Stortroen, father of the subject of this sketch, was educated in the public schools of Norway, afterward coming in the year 1856, to America, where he located in the state of Wisconsin and bought eighty acres of land on which he lived until the year 1883, when he moved to the state of Minnesota and purchased two hundred acres of land in Aastad township, this county, where he lived until the year 1900, at that time retiring and living a quiet life, until his death during the year 1906. Segre, the widow of Andres Stortroen, is now a resident of Fergus Falls, where she lives with her children.

Jens A. Stortroen was educated in the public schools of Wisconsin, after which he farmed with his father and then bought one hundred and sixty acres of land in Aastad township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, where he engaged in general farming until the year 1897, when he moved to the town of Dalton, Minnesota, and there entered the business as an implement

merchant for two years, after which time Jens A. Stortroen and John Rovang established a general merchandise store, a business in which Mr. Stortroen was engaged for some time and then he sold his interest to his associate. After this Jens A. Stortroen became a wheat buyer for some time and for the next ten years he was a lumber salesman, the last three of these ten years, this enterprising citizen also conducting a general merchandise store. During the year 1905, Jens A. Stortroen purchased the general store of John Rovang, and in 1913 Mr. Stortroen secured the store where he is now located and where he is prosperously engaged as a general merchant.

In the year 1801 Jens A. Stortroen was married to Sirianna Hansel, who was born in Tumuli township, this county, and to this marriage were born the following children: Andres, Albert, Regna, Selma, Eliza, Marville, Esther and Edwin, who is deceased.

Jens A. Stortroen has served his township in public office for many years, he having been the occupant of practically all the offices within the gift of the people. In the office as chairman of the township board Mr. Stortroen did many things for the progress and welfare of the community and its life, making an enviable record while serving in this capacity. One of the most notable of the public works of Jens A. Stortroen was his effort and his aid in the incorporation of the town of Dalton, Minnesota, during the year 1907.

Jens A. Stortroen and his family are members of the Norwegian Lutheran church, his work and his aid in support of the efforts and principles of this church being well known in the congregation.

STEFFEN A. HAUGER.

Steffen A. Hauger was born in Norway on July 8, 1858, the son of Andrew and Anna (Hanson) Steffenson, both of whom were natives of the country. The grandfather, Steffen Anderson, was a farmer and owned his own farm.

Andrew Steffenson received his education in Norway and there grew to manhood, was married and lived the life of a farmer till he came with his family to the United States in 1882. They landed at New York and came at once to Rothsay, where the father lives a retired life with his son, S. A. Hauger, the mother having been killed on June 22, 1887, by lightning that struck the house. They were the parents of the following children: Steffen A., Hilda and Hans, who was drowned in Norway.

Steffen A. Hauger was educated in the common schools of his native country, where he lived until he was twenty-four years of age, when he came to America with his parents. He was married in 1887 to Martha

Henderson, who was also born in Norway. They are the parents of the following children: Andrew, Hannah, Marvin, Agnes, Dovre, Elmer, Mabel and Clifford. Hannah is the wife of Oswald Haugen and they live in Montana. Andrew and Marvin are homesteading in Canada.

In 1890 Mr. Hauger purchased the one hundred and sixty acre farm, where he now lives, in Oscar township. He also owns twenty acres in Elizabeth township. The splendid barn was built in 1906, the house having been erected some years before, but since rebuilt.

Mr. Hauger practices general farming and is a breeder of Shorthorn cattle and Poland China hogs. He owns stock in the Farmers Elevator Company at Rothsay. Besides his duties as a farmer and stock raiser, Mr. Hauger has been road overseer for the past fourteen years.

ANDREW SWANSON.

In the list of mason contractors, the name of Andrew Swanson occupies a place as one skilled in his vocation and in which he has become prominently successful. Mr. Swanson has always possessed that inborn love of the rural district, and in connection with his trade, has acquired a splendid tract of land, consisting of one hundred and sixty acres, and which was originally the old Swanson homestead.

Andrew Swanson, mason contractor, Alexandria, Minnesota, was born in October, 1863, in Sweden, and is the son of Carl and Christina (Anderson) Swanson. At the age of three years he came to America with his parents, and his education was received at the public schools of Parkers Prairie township. As a young man he began farming on the old home place. In 1901 he became the owner of the old homestead, consisting of one hundred and sixty acres. In 1899 Mr. Swanson moved to Alexandria, where he bought a house, following his trade as a vocation. Politically, he gives his support to the Republican party, while his fraternal alliance is with the Owl lodge.

Carl and Christina (Anderson) Swanson were both born in Sweden, where they followed farming. They came to America in 1868, settling at once in Parkers Prairie township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, where they were the oldest of the pioneer settlers, taking up a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres, on which they put all the improvements. In 1899, Mr. Swanson retired and moved to Alexandria. The children born to Carl and Christina (Anderson) Swanson were: Christina, Ellen, Svin, August, Mary, Andrew, Emma, Amanda and Anna. Carl and Christina Swanson died in 1901.

Mr. Swanson has never married, having had the care of looking after his parents while they lived, and with his own busy life, has taken but little

opportunity for his individual pleasure. His support is given to every movement in the direction of material benefit to his community, where he is highly esteemed.

GUNDER REIERSON.

Among those men of the town of Dalton, Minnesota, who have made for themselves a position of prominence in the community, as a result of their success, not only in business, but in the public life of the office holder, men who have given of their time and their abilities for the general good of the locality and who as the result of long and good lives have secured the esteem and respect of their fellow citizens and associates, is Gunder Reiersen, who was born in Norway, on November 9, 1854, the son of Reier and Ella (Brotten) Elingsen, both of whom were natives of Norway, who lived in that country until the year 1861, when they came to America and settled in Spring Grove, Minnesota, where they lived the remainder of their lives, on a farm which they bought on reaching that locality. Reier and Ella Elingsen were the parents of the following children: Eling, Bertha, Anna, Gunder and Clement.

Gunder Reiersen was educated in the common schools and in the high school of Decorah, Iowa, after which he was a salesman in a store for three or four years. In the year 1877 he established a general store under the name and partnership of Haugen & Reiersen, where he remained for about four years and then sold out to his partner, and came to the town of Dalton, Minnesota, and purchased an interest in the store and firm known as Olson & Burg, Mr. Reiersen acquiring the share of Mr. Burg, and the company **assuming the firm name of Olson & Reiersen.** Although the interests in this firm changed hands a number of times, Gunder Reiersen remained in the business until he is now the oldest merchant, in point of service, in the community.

During the year 1875, Gunder Reiersen was married to Lena Nelson, who was born in the state of Wisconsin and to this marriage were born five children, Ella and Benjamin and three children who are deceased.

Gunder Reiersen, in public office, has served his township well as clerk of the school district, an office which he has occupied for more than twenty years, and as township clerk this worthy citizen made a good and satisfactory official. During the terms of office of Presidents Harrison and Cleveland, Gunder Reiersen was the efficient and capable postmaster of the town of Dalton, Minnesota.

Gunder Reiersen and his wife are faithful and devoted members of the Norwegian Lutheran church at Dalton, a congregation in which they are highly respected, as they are throughout the township and county.

JACOB O. HATLING.

Among those men who have been successful merchants in the county, and who have now retired to the more quiet walks of life, men who in the past have served notably in official life and who as the result of unselfish life and an interest in the welfare of the locality have won an honored place in the ranks of local citizenship, is Jacob O. Hatling, who was born in Norway, on December 17, 1851, the son of Tarl and Inger (Huse) Olson, both of whom were born in Norway, where they lived until the year 1865, and then came to America, locating about ten miles south of the town of Decorah, Iowa, where Tarl Olson worked as a farm helper, until the year 1867, when on July 31, with a number of families which made an ox wagon train of twenty wagons, they moved to the state of Minnesota and settled in St. Olaf township, of Otter Tail county. Here Mr. Olson engaged in farming as a squatter, until the land of this locality was surveyed by United States government officials, and then he homesteaded a farm of one hundred and sixty acres where he lived for some time and then sold his land and moved to the town of Dalton, Minnesota, there establishing, about the year 1879, a general store in which business he continued until he retired from active life; the first six months of his business career he being in partnership with K. H. Brandvold, then a prominent business man of Otter Tail county. Tarl and Inger Olson were the parents of three children, who grew to maturity, J. O. Hatling, the subject of this sketch, Ole Rambeck and Henry Anton. Tarl Olson was one of the well-known men of Dalton and the community, a man who took an interest in public affairs and one who, as a member of the Norwegian Lutheran church, was appreciated for his good life and for his support of the efforts of this congregation.

Jacob O. Hatling, the subject of this sketch, received his education in the schools of Norway and for a short time attended classes in the public schools of this country, after which he was engaged as a farmer for some years, in St. Olaf township, Otter Tail county, where he was the owner of a farm of one hundred and sixty acres, which he cultivated until the year 1886, when he disposed of his land and associated himself in business with his father as a general merchant. Later, with his father and Peter Stromstad, Jacob O. Hatling purchased a stock of hardware, and this firm continued in business for some time when Mr. Stromstad retired and his interest was acquired by J. O. Hatling and his father, the senior member of the company. After a period of enterprising business, Mr. Hatling and his father enlarged the scope of their business activity by the erection of a new addition to their original store, a room in which they engaged as hardware dealers, for some years and then Tarl Olson retired from business, and a

brother of Jacob O. Hatling entered the firm, the brother operating the general merchandise store and J. O. continuing in the conduct of the hardware stock until the year 1907, when he sold his share and retired to the town of Dalton, where he now lives.

On June 28, 1871, Jacob O. Hatling was married to Gusta Meldahl, who was born in Norway, later coming to America with her parents. To the marriage of Jacob and Gusta Hatling were born the following children: Ole, Lewis, Emma, George, Noble, Julia, May and Arthur.

Jacob O. Hatling has been a conspicuous figure in the public life of Dalton and of Tumuli township, he having served the community in nearly every township office, his first office being that of township clerk, to which he was elected when twenty-one years of age. In all matters for the promotion or advancement of conditions in Otter Tail county, J. O. Hatling is a leader, the results of whose efforts is a better and more prosperous locality.

SPENCER FOLKEDAL.

Few citizens of Dalton and of Otter Tail county have been more prominently connected, or have been honored by the people of the locality in more ways than has Spencer Folkedal, the well-known and popular postmaster of Dalton, Minnesota. A man of thorough culture, a citizen of unusual intellectual attainments and achievements, and one who with broad and valued experience in life has proved to be a notable and appreciated addition to the life and activities in the business and public circles of Otter Tail county, Minnesota, no review of life or events in the county would be complete without reference to the works and accomplishments of this man.

Spencer Folkedal was born in Medo, Blue Earth county, Minnesota, on August 20, 1875, the son of L. S. and Mattie (Munden) Folkedal, both of whom were born in Norway, where they lived until the year 1854, when L. S. Folkedal came to America and located in Combridge township, Dane county, Wisconsin where he worked on a farm and in a pinery. In 1859 L. S. Folkedal started for the Pacific Coast with a party of gold seekers. They went as far as the Pike's Peak region, Colorado, and at that time Denver was only a village. Not being pleased with the outlook for gold mining the prospectors returned to Wisconsin. Later Mr. Folkedal moved to Winneshiek county, Iowa, where he remained for a short time, and in the year 1874 he came to Minnesota, and located in Medo township, Blue Earth county, where he bought a farm of eighty acres of land on which he lived for twenty-four years, acquiring during that time two hundred acres, which he improved and cultivated.

After this time L. S. Folkedal moved to Otter Tail county, and bought one hundred acres of land in Tinnuli township, where he lived for some years and then retired to the town of Dalton, where he now lives.

L. S. Folkedal was married to Mattie Munden, daughter of Gitle Munden and wife who were natives of Norway, in which country they died.

Spencer Folkedal was educated in the common schools of Blue Earth county and at Park Region College, after which he engaged for about five years in the profession of a newspaper man at Fergus Falls, later becoming a farmer on his father's place for about four years and then, in the year 1905, he moved to the town of Dalton, Minnesota, and established himself in business as a dealer in farm implements, which business he now follows. On March 1, 1914, Spencer Folkedal was honored by his appointment to the office of postmaster of Dalton, Minnesota, an office which he is now serving with dignity and with recognized ability. In public life Mr. Folkedal has been a prominent figure, he having been elected to the office of township clerk where he served two years and for three years he was school treasurer. In political affiliation Spencer Folkedal is of the Democratic party.

On June 15, 1903, Spencer Folkedal was married to Anna Torgerson and to this marriage were born two children, Julian and Adrian.

KNUTE STENERSON.

An opportunity is here afforded for the perusal of the record of one of the prominent and influential business men of Pelican Rapids. Mr. Stenerson enjoys distinctive prestige as having achieved wealth, without even a dollar at the start as a working basis.

Knute Stenerson, lumberman, Pelican Rapids, Otter Tail county, was born on February 19, 1862, in Norway. He was educated in the public schools of Norway, emigrating to Wisconsin in 1887, where he spent one year. In 1888 he came to Pelican Rapids, Otter Tail county, and for the first two years worked as a day laborer. In 1890 he engaged in the lumber business with his brothers, four of whom came to America. In 1913, Gunder and Knute bought out the elder brother, and now handle all kinds of building supplies, under the firm name of Stenerson Brothers Lumber Company, the brothers owning the controlling stock in the company, as well as four other yards. Politically, Mr. Stenerson is a staunch Republican, while religiously, he belongs to the Norwegian Lutheran church, and is an all-around, wide-awake business man. He owns considerable stock in the First National Bank of Pelican Rapids, and is vice-president and director in the Arhard State Bank.

Ingenmt Stenerson, father of the subject of this sketch, was born in Norway, as was also his wife. He was a saving, industrious farmer, and

lived and died in Norway, where he reared his family of seven children, four of whom came to America.

Knute Stenerson was united in marriage, in 1893, with Lina Stein. They have an adopted daughter, Mollie, who became the wife of Carl Clausen.

Mr. Stenerson has long enjoyed the undivided respect of a large circle of sincere friends and acquaintances in Otter Tail county, and as one of the prosperous and representative men of his town, merits representation in a history of the county.

CHRISTIAN C. KNUDSON.

One of the best-known farmers of Otter Tail county and of Aastad township, a man who has been peculiarly successful as a farmer, and one who as a citizen has so conducted himself as to win the respect and esteem of the community is Christian C. Knudson. Public spirited, far seeing, and of nature and training to soon become an important part of the locality of his residence, he has proved to be one of those men without whom the county and township would be less advanced and less progressive.

Christian C. Knudson was born in Norway, February 15, 1869, the son of Christian and Engebor (Ostrus) Knudson, who were born in Norway and lived in that country until the year 1872, when they came to America and located in Webster county, Iowa, where they rented a farm on which they lived for some time and then bought the place where they made their home for the next eighteen years. Later they moved to Palo Alto county, Iowa, where Christian Knudson, Sr., purchased three hundred and twenty acres of land which he now owns, though he and his wife live in retirement at the town of Emmitsburg, Palo Alto county, Iowa. To the marriage of Christian and Engebor Knudson were born the following children: Christian, the subject of this sketch; Anna, Carrie, Thomas, Carl, Herbert, Hannah, Oscar, Ida, Emma and Elmer.

Christian Knudson, father of the subject of this sketch, is the son of Knudt and Ann Moon, who were natives of Norway, a country where Knudt Moon spent his entire life. After his death his wife, Ann, came to America with a son, some time after Christian Knudson, Sr., had emigrated to this country. On reaching America Ann Moon, with her son, located in Webster county, Iowa, where she died some time later.

Engebor Knudson, mother of the subject of this sketch, is the daughter of Toley and Christian Ostrus, both of whom were born in Norway, in which country they made their home until the year 1877, when they came to America and settled in Webster county, Iowa, where Toley Ostrus was engaged in general farming until his death. Christina Ostrus, following

the death of her husband, went to the state of South Dakota, in which state she died.

Christian Knudson, father of the subject of this sketch, was married to Christina Ostrus, who was the mother of one son, Knud, who died at the age of twenty-four years, while a resident of the state of Michigan. Shortly following the birth of her son, Christina (Ostrus) Knudson died, and after some time Christian Knudson was married to a sister of his deceased wife.

Christian C. Knudson was educated in the public schools of Webster county, Iowa, after which he farmed for one year in that locality and then went to Palo Alto county, Iowa, where he rented a farm until the year 1912, at which time he bought three hundred and twenty acres of land in Aastad township, a place where he has since lived.

On April 22, 1896, Christian C. Knudson was married to Jennie Jacobson, who was born in Marshall county, Iowa, October 14, 1879, the daughter of Serenius H. Jacobson and wife, who were natives of Norway. To the marriage of Christian and Jennie Knudson were born the following children: Clarence, Silas, Clara, Cornelia, Charlotte, Alice, Kilridge, Thresa, Chester and Hjelmer.

Christian C. Knudson is a member of the Lutheran church, in which congregation he takes an active part in the work and where he is among the most appreciated communicants.

In all works or movements for the general welfare of the farmer, or for the various walks of life in Otter Tail county, Christian C. Knudson is a force in the direction of progress and is one of the important elements of citizenship in the community.

AMUND JOHNSON.

One of the most successful farmers and a heavy landowner of Otter Tail county, a man who from a modest beginning has grown to be prominent in the ranks of agricultural life and a man who as a citizen has taken no small part in the advancement of the community and the development of its resources, is Amund Johnson, the subject of this sketch, who was born in Norway, October 11, 1859, the son of John Gunderson and Ingeborg (Runigen) Ler, both of whom were natives of Norway.

Following his marriage in the land of his birth, John Gunderson with his wife, during the year 1868, came to America, and located at Jefferson Prairie, Wisconsin, where he was engaged as a farmer for the remainder of his life. His wife, Ingeborg, survives her husband and now lives near the city of Milwaukee, Wisconsin. To the marriage of John Gunderson and his wife Ingeborg, were born the following children: Gunder, who lives in the state of South Dakota; Amund, the subject of this sketch; Martin,

who lives in Grant county, Minnesota, and Gunder, who lives near Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

Amund Johnson was educated in the public schools of the state of Wisconsin, after which he worked for some time at general farm work, and then he went to Pelican Lake, Grant county, Minnesota, about the year 1877, working on the farms of that region for the greater part of two years, and then he went to the state of South Dakota, and pre-empted land, which after two years he sold and moved to Ashby, Grant county, Minnesota, where he farmed for three years, and followed the butcher business at the town of Ashby for six years.

During the year 1892, Amund Johnson bought one hundred and sixty acres of land in Aastad township, a place which on taking possession he found uncleared and unbroken, but which this progressive farmer soon converted into a modern farm with good buildings, and which now is in a high state of cultivation. Mr. Johnson now owns four hundred acres of first-class land in Otter Tail county, all of which is well cared for and improved with necessary buildings and equipment.

Amund Johnson, during the year 1882, was married to Lena Johnson who is the daughter of Lage Johnson and wife, natives of Norway. To the marriage of Amund and Lena Johnson have been born the following children: Lage, Gerhard, Nora and Myrtle.

Amund Johnson has been a good citizen of Otter Tail county, serving his township at one time on the township board and at all times being willing to aid in all moves for the advancement of local interests. In religious affiliation Amund Johnson and his wife are members of the Lutheran church.

ANDREW PETERSON.

It has been truly said that "It is not by sleeping, but by working, waking and laboring continually, that proficiency is attained and reputation acquired." Were this test to be applied to him whose life record is briefly sketched here, he might be considered an exemplification for the statement, for from his early manhood, ambition, industry and honesty have been marked characteristics. Andrew Peterson, for thirty-three years, a resident of Pelican Rapids, is a native of Sweden, having been born there on September 22, 1853. He is the son of Peter and Christine (Haugland) Arinson, both of whom were born in Sweden, where they spent their entire lives. Mr. Peterson operated a foundry. Their children were ten in number, three of whom are dead, and one of these was named Sabina. The others are Orin, Eva, John, Aleas, Eric, Carl and Andrew.

Andrew attended school in Sweden and also became proficient there in the carpenter's trade. In April, 1880, he immigrated to America and

followed his trade first in Ishpeming, Michigan. He later followed the same trade in Chicago, Wisconsin and Fergus Falls. From the latter place he removed to Pelican Rapids in 1882. As the railroad was then in construction he rode only as far as its terminus and was compelled to walk the rest of the way, a distance of two miles. Here he was a carpenter for many years, in fact until he went into the furniture and undertaking business about the year 1895. He has succeeded in this undertaking and today is well known in his present line of work.

Rockel Norhan became Mrs. Andrew Peterson in 1888. Although a native of Norway, she was then living in Pelican Rapids with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Ole Norhan, who afterward took up a homestead claim in North Dakota. The children born of this union are five in number, namely: Inger Christinia, Oscar P., Alma Christinia, Carl Johan and Ruth Meria. Mr. and Mrs. Peterson are devoted members of the Lutheran church, to which they have been generous both with their time and means.

With faith in himself and in the universal good, Mr. Peterson has made his life one of influence and usefulness, and has had the reward of knowing that he has made many warm friends in this locality.

WILLIAM LINCOLN.

The Lincoln family have been prominent in the official life of Otter Tail county for more than a quarter of a century. William Lincoln, the well-known auditor of Otter Tail county, who succeeded his father to this office, not only is well known in the political life of the county, but is a highly respected citizen in private circles.

William Lincoln is a native of Albert Lee, Minnesota, where he was born on May 23, 1877, a son of William C. and Elizabeth (Gates) Lincoln, the former of whom was engaged in the mercantile business for some time, and later in clerical work. He served seventeen years as a deputy in various county offices, and was nine years auditor of Otter Tail county.

In the spring of 1882 the Lincoln family removed to Fergus Falls, and it was there that William Lincoln received his early education. He was graduated from the Fergus Falls high school, after which he was employed on *Wheelock's Weekly* for three years. He then became a clerk in the office of the county auditor, under his father, William C. Lincoln, and on February 29, 1908, was appointed county auditor to fill out the unexpired term of his father, whose untimely death occurred in that month. In the fall of 1908, Mr. Lincoln was triumphantly elected to the office which his father had so capably filled, and to which he had succeeded after his father's death. He was again elected in 1910, and was re-elected in 1912 and in 1914. Altogether he has filled the office of county auditor a little more than



WILLIAM C. LINCOLN.



WILLIAM LINCOLN.

eight years, and has given to the people of Otter Tail county not only conscientious, but efficient service.

In 1903 William Lincoln was married to Perle Czeskleba, and to this union have been born four children, Mildred, William C., Helen Leone and Donald.

JOHN ERIKSON.

On that roll of honored citizens, the memory of whom the people of Otter Tail county delight in perpetuating, is the name of John Erikson, who as a good citizen in the community in the more commonplace life, as well as having been a valued citizen of the nation, who in the days of the great Rebellion served through the perils of the most severe days of the most extensive campaigns, has won for himself a place in the hearts of his countrymen that will not soon be effaced. Successful as a farmer, efficient in business, public spirited as a citizen and forceful of personality as a man, his death was a distinct loss to the county.

John Erikson was born in Norway, November 14, 1843, the son of Erik and Berit (Johnson) Helgeson, who were natives of Norway, where they lived until the year 1852, when they came to America and located in Racine county, Wisconsin, where they lived for some time and then went to Goodhue county, Minnesota, where Erik Helgeson bought eighty acres of land, on which he put extensive improvements, and where he lived for the remainder of his life. Erik and Berit (Johnson) Helgeson were the parents of seven children.

John Erikson was educated in the public schools of the state of Wisconsin and Minnesota, after which he worked for some time at general farm employment. During the year 1865 John Erikson enlisted for service with Company E, Eleventh Regiment, Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, in the Civil War, serving until the close of the war, during which time he was a sufferer with typhoid fever contracted while on duty.

Some time after leaving the service of his country John Erikson came to Otter Tail county, Minnesota, where he homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of land in Aastad township, establishing a home here, where he lived for the remainder of his life. After improving his original farm until it was in first-class condition, John Erikson, added by purchase forty acres adjoining and at another time bought thirty-eight acres of timber land, on all of which that enterprising farmer placed a number of improvements.

On October 19, 1868, John Erikson was married to Berit Boeye, who was a native of Norway, the daughter of Boeye Amunson and Berit Ostend-

son, who came to America in the year 1864, going to the state of Iowa, where they remained two weeks and then coming to the state of Minnesota, where they established a home in Goodhue county, where they lived for the remainder of their lives. Berit, the wife of John Erikson, is one of four children. To the marriage of John and Berit Erikson were born the following children: Erik, Osten, Henry, Berit, John, Berner and Anna. Of these children, Henry lives on the home farm.

John Erikson was a faithful and devout member of the Norwegian Lutheran church, giving freely of his time and his interests for the promotion of the welfare of that organization. John Erikson was a good man, a kind father and loving husband, and a man and citizen of whom, and of whose record, the people of Aastad township are justly appreciative.

John Erikson died on September 4, 1895, mourned by hosts of friends and fellow citizens.

JOHN M. JOHNSON.

John M. Johnson, as present mayor of Pelican Rapids, as well as the first settler of Pelican township, is deserving of more than casual mention in the present publication. A resident of this township for forty-six years, his life and character have had a strong influence upon the community in which he has been a leader. Mr. Johnson, who was born in Sweden on April 6, 1843, came to this country when he was twenty-three years of age. He is the son of John and Johanna (Ness) Johnson, both of whom were born in his native land.

Mrs. Johnson died when the subject of this sketch was a lad of five years and her husband came to America in 1866 and made his home with his son, John, until he was over ninety years of age. In Sweden he was engaged in the farming industry and served in the Swedish army. The children of Mr. and Mrs. Johnson are John M. whose life history is here presented; Alese, who died in this country, and Inger, a resident of Detroit, Michigan.

After receiving his education in his native country, John Johnson farmed there and in Norway, to which country he went in 1863. Three years later he came to the United States and located in White Water, Wisconsin, but the same year he became a citizen of Winship county, Iowa. Returning to Wisconsin, he worked in the pineries for Knapp, Stout & Company, one of the largest lumber companies in the state. In the spring of 1869 he braved the wilderness of the north and became the first settler of what is now known as Pelican township. As a "squatter" he pre-empted the land and later homesteaded and has now made this tract one of the most productive farms in the county. It is three hundred and sixty acres

in extent and to this estate may be added three hundred and twenty acres which he owns in Canada. On this homestead, where besides farming he raised Guernsey cattle, he lived until 1910 when he built a home in Pelican Rapids.

While Mr. Johnson was the first pioneer to brave life in Pelican township, three other families came to this county at the same time and located in Norwegian Grove township. Mr. Johnson was at this time unmarried. With the four families that traveled together he camped the first night (Thursday) on the west bank of Prairie lake. Their peaceful slumbers were disturbed by the stealthy tread of eight Indian braves. Fortunately, Mr. Johnson had learned to talk Chippewa during his service as cook in the northern pineries, and also when he took part in government surveys at LeVern, Minnesota, and along the South Dakota line and when he worked along Red river. So he acted as spokesman for the little group of frightened pioneers, and a council was held at which it was agreed that the whites should farm and the Indians should be allowed to hunt and that they would be friendly in their relations.

On Saturday night of the same week, while Mr. Johnson was away, the women of the camping party were terrorized by seeing ten Indians scantily clad approaching the camp. The women fled panic-stricken to the woods, but the Indians made no further attempt to enter the camp. The fright of this event, however, caused the four families to pack up their few household goods and to move westward within the present boundaries of Norwegian Grove township. Some time after this episode Mr. Johnson inquired of the Indians why they had molested the camp after their agreement to be peaceful. The red men were surprised at the question and said that they wanted only to trade some game for cornmeal. Mr. Johnson then explained to them that in their almost undressed condition, they had frightened the settlers away. There was no further interruption to the peace of the campers though they still insisted upon moving away.

Myra Berg became the wife of Mr. Johnson in 1873. She was born in Norway and is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Hans Berg. Her father came to America and made his home with Mr. and Mrs. Johnson until his death at the age of ninety-four. The children born in this household are H. M., a physician of Dawson, Minnesota; Matilda, the deceased wife of Otto Crookstad; Caroline, who is Mrs. Adolph Arneson, of Pelican township; Alga, who lives at home; Emma, who is Mrs. Oscar Sillerod, of Pelican township; Carl M., a physician living at Montevideo, Minnesota. The Johnson family are members of the United Lutheran church. Mrs. Johnson died on June 15, 1913.

Mr. Johnson, besides having farming interests, is a director of the

First National Bank. For fifteen years, he was on the board of township trustees and was chairman most of the time, and has held other offices. In the spring of 1915 he was elected mayor of the village. John M. Johnson is a progressive farmer, a loyal citizen, a true friend, a devoted husband and father, and a man of generous impulses and unimpeachable character.

LOUIS ARNOLD.

Louis Arnold, a successful farmer of Aurdal township, is a native of Sweden, where he was born on January 12, 1858. Mr. Arnold is the son of John and Maja (Olson) Larson, both of whom were born in Sweden and who spent their entire lives in their native country.

Louis Arnold was educated in his native land, and in 1878 came to America and settled at St. Peter, Minnesota. Four years later he emigrated to Otter Tail county and purchased eighty acres of land from his father-in-law, Osul Halverson. When Mr. Arnold obtained possession of this farm there were only ten acres cleared. He has been compelled to clear the land and to fence it.

On September 24, 1882, Louis Arnold was married to Osenia Halverson, who was born in Norway on November 4, 1860. Mr. and Mrs. Arnold have no children. Mrs. Arnold's father, Osul Halverson, was born in Norway in 1827. His wife, who before her marriage was Anne Torgusdaughter, was born in Norway in 1832 and moved to Rice county, Minnesota, in 1862. Two of Mrs. Arnold's maternal uncles, Ashley and Torgus Torgenson, served in the Civil War. In 1870 Mrs. Arnold's father and mother came to Aurdal township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, and homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of land where Mr. and Mrs. Arnold now live. Later they purchased one hundred and ten acres east of the first tract. They were the parents of eight children: Helena and Hans died in infancy; Törena and Torgus died in this country. The living children are Osenia, who is now Mrs. Arnold; Jacob, Halver and Mary.

Mrs. Arnold's mother was the daughter of Torgus and Ose Olson, who were born in Norway and who, in 1856, emigrated to Rice county, Minnesota, and purchased forty acres of school land. They spent their last days in Rice county. They had a family of six children, of whom Ole, Bertha, Gunder and Anne are deceased. Ashley is now living in Aurdal township, Otter Tail county. He was born in Norway on July 29, 1837, and moved to Rice county, Minnesota, with his parents. He attended a writing school at Faribault, Minnesota, and, in 1860, homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of land in this county. Later he purchased one hundred and sixty acres where he now lives. He has held most of the township offices and served as a soldier in the Civil War. By his marriage to Anne Johnson,

who was born in Norway in 1852 and who is the daughter of Andrew and Sarena Anderson, pioneer settlers of Rice county, there were born four children, Marie, Thomas, Sarah and Arthur. Mrs. Ashley Torgerson died in 1892. Torgus, the sixth child, is a farmer in Aurdal township and was a soldier in the Civil War.

Mr. and Mrs. Louis Arnold are members of the Lutheran church. Mr. Arnold is now clerk of the school board.

JOHN LYG, M. D.

One of the most prominent men in Otter Tail county, not only in his professional capacity as a physician, but as a man of high intellectual attainments and strong personality, is Dr. John Lyng. He has always exemplified the highest ethical code of his chosen profession and his technical knowledge and skill are such as to give him a place among the representatives of his vocation in the state. Not content with merely doing his duty in the community where he lived he gave his services in the Spanish-American War with a glad heart, and the story of self-sacrifice during this part of his life is but a shadow of what his later life has been.

Doctor Lyng is one of those men who believe that years of thoughtful preparation are essential to success in professional life, and his preparation for the practice of medicine has taken him to the best schools in Europe as well as in America. The success of Doctor Lyng as a physician in the community in which he lives has not been a mere accident but is the natural result of a noble inheritance. He is a descendant of a high and honored family of Norway and has retained those traits of character which make the Norwegians among the most industrious in the world.

The birthplace of Doctor Lyng was in Namsos, Norway, where he was born on the 25th of December, 1865. He is the son of Martin and (Johanna) Lyng, both natives of Norway. His father followed the occupation of a merchant, and died in 1873.

The first trip of Doctor Lyng to America was made when he was nineteen years old, and since that time has been abroad six times. After his arrival in this country he began the study of medicine, which took him to the University of Minnesota, where he was graduated from the medical department in 1890. Two years later he went abroad in the interest of his profession and visited the greatest hospitals and medical schools in Edinburgh, Copenhagen, Berlin and Paris. He returned to America in 1897 and became surgeon for the Soo Line, in which capacity he gained a wide acquaintance among railroad men. After a period of practice as a surgeon he returned to Germany for a further study of medicine. Upon his return to America he found the country in a state of excitement over the Spanish-

American War, and as a consequence, gave his services to medical work in the war zone, where he gained a wide experience not only with members of his chosen profession but with humanity as a whole.

In 1890 Doctor Lyng returned to Minnesota, where he again entered the medical world as physician in Alexandria. In 1904 he moved to Minneapolis, where he practiced medicine for four years. At the end of that time Doctor Lyng sailed again for Vienna and Paris to study surgery, and returned in 1911. He took up his residence in Fergus Falls, where the members of the community still claim his services as a physician.

In 1900, Dr. John Lyng was united in marriage to Clara B. Chilson, a native of South Dakota, daughter of O. A. and Marie Chilson, of Webster, South Dakota. To this union was born one son, John, who is now attending school at Minneapolis. Mrs. Lyng died on February 8, 1914.

Doctor Lyng holds membership in the American Medical Association, the Minnesota State Medical Society, and the Park Region Medical Society. He is also a member of the Thulanian Society at the University of Minnesota; a reserve member of the medical department, Seventh Army Corps, United States Regulars; a member of the Nordmands Farbundet, and Lodge No. 19, Free and Accepted Masons, Minneapolis, Minnesota.

EBEN E. CORLISS.

Pioneer citizens of Otter Tail county who are now living remember very well Eben E. Corliss, who is also a pioneer of this section, now living in St. Paul, where he has been custodian of the capitol building since 1911.

Eben E. Corliss was born on September 1, 1841, and is a native of Washington county, Vermont. He is the son of Timothy E. and Elvira (Hutchins) Corliss, both of whom were natives of New Hampshire. The father was a farmer and a lumberman and moved to Winona county, Minnesota, in 1856, settling in Saratoga township, where he pre-empted one hundred and sixty acres of land. He improved his farm and remained there until after the close of the Civil War. Timothy E. and Elvira Corliss were the parents of eight children. The mother died in Saratoga township, Winona county, December 6, 1860.

Eben E. Corliss remained at home in his native state, receiving his education in the common schools. His early training was received while still living with his parents upon the old home farm. At the breaking out of the Civil War, he enlisted in Company K, First Regiment, Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, and, after a period, enlisted in Company A, Second Regiment, Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, serving for three years. Mr. Corliss passed through a very trying period of service. He was wounded in the battle of Chickamauga, being struck by a bullet in the back of the head and, for

two months, was confined in the hospital, known as No. 5, at Nashville, Tennessee. On May 26, 1864, he was discharged from the service and in April, 1865, enlisted in Company A, Ninth Regiment, United States Veteran Volunteers, serving as sergeant until the close of the war. Mr. Corliss was in a great many severe engagements. Among them may be named the following: Mill Springs, Kentucky; Pittsburg Landing, Siege of Corinth, Perryville, Chickamauga, and others of lesser importance. He was, for a time, with Sherman before Atlanta and, for forty days, was engaged in weary marching toward that city, being under fire the greater part of the time. After returning from the war, he settled in Saratoga township, Winona county, Minnesota, where he remained on the farm for one year. From Saratoga township, he moved to Chatfield, Fillmore county, Minnesota, where he studied law with Judge Ripley. In 1870 he was admitted to the bar.

After coming to Otter Tail county Eben E. Corliss settled at Battle Lake, Minnesota, where he built the first frame house in the county. Its dimensions were sixteen by twenty feet, with twelve foot posts. He settled on three hundred and twenty acres of land, one-half of which was preempted and the other half homesteaded. He continued on the farm, improving it until 1874, at which time he moved to Fergus Falls and opened a law office, engaging actively in the practice of his profession. Mr. Corliss's property interests in the city of Fergus Falls consist of several houses, much business property, besides his fine residence with all modern improvements, situated on Lincoln avenue. He also has a summer residence at Clitherall lake.

Mr. Corliss has held many offices of trust and responsibility within the gift of the people of Otter Tail county. He was elected county attorney in 1870 and held that office during the greater part of the time until 1884, serving ten years in all. For one year he served as a member of the lower house of the state Legislature in 1872. He was a member of the state capitol commission. He has also served as deputy register of deeds, as deputy treasure of Otter Tail county and as superintendent of the county schools, filling out the unexpired term occasioned by his brother's death. The brother, William M. Corliss, was the first superintendent of schools in Otter Tail county.

In 1864 Eben E. Corliss was married to Elizabeth Tucker, the daughter of John Tucker, of Saratoga township, Winona county, Minnesota. Six children were born to them, as follow: Charles W., who is an attorney-at-law, who was married in 1887 to Alice Stanton, of Fergus Falls; John H., a graduate of Rush Medical College and now a resident of Sumner, Washington; Florence, Jennie, Mary and Roy J.

In politics, Mr. Corliss defends the principles propounded by the Republican party. He has attained considerable prominence in the councils of the Republican party and is one of the leaders of the party in Otter Tail county. He was one of the organizers of the Citizens Bank. Fraternally, he is a member of the Masonic lodge, the Grand Army of the Republic, and the Independent Order of Odd Fellows.

AMUND NELSON HAUGEN.

Well known in the business and commercial life of Fergus Falls, Minnesota, is Amund Nelson Haugen, who was for many years a prominent business man of Otter Tail county.

Mr. Nelson was born on March 1, 1846, in Hollindahl, Norway. He is the son of Nells E. and Carrie (Nelson) Haugen. The entire Haugen family crossed the Atlantic ocean in 1846 and was sixteen weeks on the voyage. They emigrated to Quebec, Canada, and from Quebec to the United States, settling at Rock Prairie, Rock county, Wisconsin, where the father purchased land and built a stone house. Amund Nelson remained on the old homestead until 1862. When the Civil War broke out he enlisted in the Thirty-third Regiment, Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, and served three years in Company E. Altogether he was engaged in seventeen battles. He received an honorable discharge in Madison, Wisconsin, in 1865, and after his return home, in Rock county, he remained a year and then moved to Highland Prairie, Fillmore county, Minnesota, where he established a general store, which he operated for one year.

After one year at Highland Prairie, Mr. Nelson removed to Spring Grove, in Houston county, where he opened a store, which he sold at the end of one year. In 1868 Mr. Nelson came by team all the way to St. Olaf, Otter Tail county, but he remained only long enough to purchase eight hundred acres of land in Fergus Falls township.

Amund N. Haugen returned to Fillmore county and in 1876 married Christina Halverson. They have a family of seven children, as follow: Henry, who resides at Rugby, North Dakota; Clara; Albert, of Duluth; Nellie, who teaches in Minot, North Dakota; Charles, Emma and Hannah, who live at home with their parents.

Mr. Nelson returned to Otter Tail county and located in Elizabeth. He engaged in the farm implement business, which he followed for twenty-one years. In 1897, with his family, he removed to Fergus Falls and after that time was practically retired from active life.

Mr. Nelson occupies himself by loaning money and by occasionally buying and selling real estate. He is the former president of the First State Bank, of Fergus Falls. He has a beautiful and spacious residence on North

Union street. Mr. Nelson is a familiar figure on the streets of Fergus Falls and is popular among all classes of people. Fraternally, he is a member of the Grand Army of the Republic.

ONON TORGERTSON.

Born on the farm which he now owns in Aurdal township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, May 2, 1878, Onon Torgertson is the son of Gunder and Christina Torgertson, who were natives of Norway and Sweden, respectively.

Mr. Torgertson's father was born on March 13, 1830, and his mother was born in Sweden in 1846. The former moved to Faribault, Rice county, Minnesota, in 1867, and three years later to Otter Tail county, where he took a homestead of one hundred and forty acres. He added to this farm until he had one hundred and sixty-nine acres, where his son, Onon, now lives. He cleared most of the land. He died in 1892 and his wife in 1894. They had a family of seven children, Emma, Christian (deceased), Onon, Augusta, Oscar, Esther and Anton. They were members of the Swedish Baptist church. Gunder Torgertson served as township treasurer for a number of years, in all about twelve.

Onon Torgertson was reared on a farm and educated in the public schools. He has always been engaged in farming and, at the present time owns ninety-one acres of the old homestead. Mr. Torgertson has erected a magnificent new barn and a very fine residence. These buildings were constructed in 1915.

On May 28, 1901, Onon Torgertson was married to Ella Wessberg, who was born in Sweden in 1883. Her father was born in Sweden and is now deceased. Her mother lives in Warren, North Dakota. Mr. and Mrs. Torgertson have five children, Lorimer, Ruth, Chester, Eunice and Thelma.

Mr. Torgertson's paternal grandparents were Torgus and Ose Olson, both of whom were natives of Norway and who came to Rice county, Minnesota, in 1856. They purchased forty acres of land in Rice county and spent their last days there. They were the parents of six children, of whom Ole, Bertha, Gunder and Anne are deceased. The living children are Ashley and Torgus. Ashley is a farmer in Aurdal township and a veteran of the Civil War. Torgus is also a farmer in Aurdal township and a veteran of the Civil War.

There is no family in Aurdal township which is more favorably known than the Torgertsons. They have worthily discharged every duty of life, both public and private, and today Onon Torgertson, a representative of the present generation of the family, enjoys the confidence and esteem of all of the people of this township.

EVEN MATHIASON.

"The good citizen is a person who habitually conducts himself with proper regard for the welfare of the community of which he is a member, and is active and intelligent in his co-operation with his fellow members to that end." Even Mathiason, who was born in Norway, September 3, 1855, was twenty-seven years old when he came to this country. His parents, O. and Bertha (Erikson) Mathiason, lived and died in his native land.

Even Mathiason received his education in Norway and located in Pelican Rapids in 1882 immediately after arriving in the United States. It was necessary to travel from Roxie, Minnesota, to this township in a wagon drawn by oxen. After working on a farm for nine years he returned to Norway and brought back his bride whom he married in St. Paul in 1891.

Mrs. Mathiason was Olena, daughter of Ole Mathiason, and was born in Norway. Her father died in that country. After his marriage, Mr. Mathiason located in the present building and operated a hotel for the following six years. He then laid in a stock of groceries and has been a grocery merchant ever since. The children born to Mr. and Mrs. Mathiason are Ole; Elmer, aged twenty-two years; Beney Louis, aged eighteen years; Ethel Meria, aged twelve years, and Lawrence William, aged seven years. Mr. and Mrs. Mathiason are members of the Synodical church.

Mr. Mathiason was for some time a member of the local school board and to its work gave his best thought and attention. A residence of thirty-three years in one town, during which time Mr. Mathiason has built up a reputation for honor in business and loyalty and uprightness in private life, make him one of the esteemed citizens of this township.

NELS GERHARDSON.

One of the successful farmers of Aurdal township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, who is a native of Norway, is Nels Gerhardson, who was born in Norway, April 8, 1861.

Mr. Gerhardson is the son of Andrew and Kare (Nels) Gerhardson, both of whom were born in Norway, the former in 1823 and the latter in 1830. After their marriage, in their native land, they started for America on April 11, 1801, and, upon arrival in the United States, settled in the state of Iowa. Later, however, they emigrated to Freeborn county, Minnesota, and, subsequently, to Otter Tail county, before the city of Fergus Falls was thought of and at a time when there was only one grocery store on the present site of Fergus Falls. About three months later, Mr. Gerhardson's grandfather came to America and took a homestead in Aurdal township, comprising one hundred and sixty acres. Mr. Gerhardson's

father inherited this farm and died upon it in 1907. His wife died about four years previously, in 1903. Mr. Gerhardson's parents had ten children, of whom one, Lena, died early in life. The others were Gulena, Nels, Christine, Gilbert, Karl, Anne, Ole, Otto and Tilla. Mr. Gerhardson's parents were members of the Lutheran church.

Nels Gerhardson was a mere lad when his parents settled in Aurdal township. He was educated in the public schools of the township, reared on the farm and has always been engaged in farming. In partnership with his sons, Mr. Gerhardson owns two hundred and ten acres of land three miles out of Fergus Falls, where he is engaged in farming and stock raising. Since he acquired this farm, Mr. Gerhardson has made many improvements. He has erected substantial buildings, fenced the land and installed adequate drainage, all of which has contributed to make the farm a most desirable tract and most productive.

In 1887 Nels Gerhardson was married to Mattie Vegin, who is a native of Minnesota, born in 1866. Mrs. Gerhardson's father was Knut Vegin, who was an early settler in Grant county, Minnesota, where he spent his last days. Mr. and Mrs. Nels Gerhardson have been the parents of five children: Eva, who is deceased; Eva, who married Gunder Mjeth and has two children, Jenette and Norman; Anton, who lives at home; Eddie, who also lives at home, and Martha, who is deceased. The mother of these children died on March 12, 1896. Nels Gerhardson is a highly-respected citizen in the township and county where he has lived for several years and where he is well known.

LOUIS HALVORSON.

Louis Halvorson, a native of Fergus Falls township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, was born a mile and a half from Elizabeth, November 13, 1881, is one of the successful young farmers of Aurdal township. Mr. Halvorson is the son of Mathias and Mary (Holte) Halvorson, the former of whom was born in Norway in 1830 and the latter born in that country in 1851. Mathias Halvorson moved to southern Minnesota, and later to Otter Tail county, settling on a homestead one and one-half miles south of Elizabeth, where he lived until 1901. He now lives retired in Fergus Falls. Mrs. Mathias Halvorson, who was married to Mathias Halvorson in Otter Tail county, is the daughter of Johannes and Bertha (Holler) Holte, who were early settlers in Otter Tail county, but who are now both deceased. Mr. Halvorson's parents were members of the Lutheran church. They had altogether a family of fourteen children, seven of whom are as follow: Henry, Louis, Mollie, Hannah, Emma, Eddie and Alfred; the others are deceased.

Reared on the old homestead farm in Fergus Falls township, Louis

Halvorson was educated in the public schools and as soon as he was old enough took up farming as a life vocation. In 1910 Mr. Halvorson moved to the farm of one hundred and twenty acres, which he now owns, in Aurdal township. He is engaged in farming and stock raising and has made a success of his chosen vocation.

In 1906 Louis Halvorson was married to Emma Brekke, the daughter of Halvor G. Brekke, who is mentioned elsewhere in this volume. Mr. and Mrs. Halvorson have five children, Eleanor, Morris, Bertha, Harry and Ida.

Mr. Halvorson has been more or less active in local politics and is now serving as clerk of Aurdal township. He and his wife and family are members of the Lutheran church.

JACOB CLARENCE EVELAND.

Among the well-known farmers of Aurdal township is Jacob Clarence Eveland, who owns two hundred and forty acres of magnificent farming land, three and one-half miles northeast of Fergus Falls, Minnesota, and who was born in Bremer county, Iowa, September 7, 1873.

Mr. Eveland is the son of Jacob M. and Angeline (Stuffleben) Eveland, the former of whom was born in Fulton county, Illinois, in 1843, and the latter born in the same county. Jacob M. Eveland was the son of Henry and Irene (Miller) Eveland, the former of whom was born in Indiana, and the latter a native of Pennsylvania. Henry Eveland and wife emigrated to Fulton county, Illinois, and, after living there for twenty years, emigrated to Bremer county, Iowa. It was Henry Eveland's brother, Mason Eveland, who was the first settler in Lafayette township, Bremer county, Iowa. Henry Eveland himself was the second settler in that township. Mr. Eveland's paternal grandfather died in Bremer county, Iowa, in 1879. His wife had died many years before.

Mr. Eveland's maternal grandparents were Joshua and Polly (Alsbury) Stuffleben, both of whom were natives of the Keystone state and who, after their marriage in Pennsylvania, emigrated to Fulton county, Illinois, and later to Bremer county, Iowa, settling in Lafayette township. Both died in Bremer county, the former in 1913, at the age of eighty-nine, and the latter in 1885, at the age of sixty-three years.

Mr. Eveland's father, the venerable Jacob M. Eveland, is now living in Lafayette township, Bremer county. He owns two hundred and seventy-one acres of the old homestead, at one time owned a number of farms. He also owns land in Mississippi. By his marriage to Angeline Stuffleben there were born nine children, five of whom grew to manhood and womanhood, Nellie, Jacob Clarence, Bertha, Glenn and Alvin.

Jacob Clarence Eveland was reared on the old homestead farm in

Bremer county, Iowa, and educated in the public schools. Mr. Eveland has always been engaged in farming. In 1904 he emigrated to South Dakota and purchased three hundred and twenty acres of land in that state, which, however, he sold in October, 1909, when he came to Aurdal township and purchased two hundred and forty acres, three and one-half miles northeast of Fergus Falls, Minnesota.

In 1892 Jacob C. Eveland was married to Fannie Chestnut, a native of Fulton county, Illinois, who was born on April 27, 1874. Mrs. Eveland's father and mother were John and Emma (Stuffleben) Chestnut, both of whom were natives of Fulton county, Illinois. Mrs. Eveland's mother died in 1885, and her father died on September 16, 1915, at Manito, Illinois. Mr. and Mrs. Eveland have six children, Tina, Melvin, Everett, Bessie, Ada and Merrill, all of whom are living.

Mr. and Mrs. Eveland and family are members of the Methodist Episcopal church. Nominally, Mr. Eveland is identified with the Democratic party, but he has never been especially interested in politics and has never aspired to office. He is known in the community where he lives as a successful farmer, a good man and a valuable citizen.

HALVOR G. BREKKE.

Halvor G. Brekke, a prosperous farmer of Aurdal township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, is a native of Norway, where he was born on June 15, 1845. Mr. Brekke is the son of Gunder Olson and Sigred (Aslakson) Brekke, both of whom were natives of Norway. Mr. Brekke's father was born in March, 1808, and his mother in February, 1808.

The Brekkes emigrated to Dane county, Wisconsin, in 1861, and to Aurdal township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, in 1870. They took up a homestead in section 9, and here both lived until their deaths. Mr. Brekke's father died in April, 1896, and his mother in September, 1901. They were the parents of twelve children, of whom Ole, Julia, Aasne, Aasne and Margaret are deceased. The living children are Aslak, Sandow, Torger, Halvor G., Julia, Ole and Margaret.

Halvor G. Brekke was educated in the public schools of Norway and, in 1865, four years after his parents had come to Wisconsin, the son also came to Dane county, Wisconsin, and settled in Deerfield township, where he worked on a farm. He accompanied his parents to Otter Tail county in 1870 and took a homestead farm of one hundred and forty-seven acres, where he now lives. This splendid farm is situated in section 9, of Aurdal township. Mr. Brekke cleared the land, which he had acquired by homestead right, and in 1880 built a good residence. During the same year he also built a very commodious barn, which was destroyed by lightning and

which was replaced in 1912 by a magnificent new barn, forty-eight by sixty-six by fourteen feet. Mr. Brekke is a general farmer and stockman and has been successful in his chosen vocation.

In 1877 Halvor G. Brekke was married to Betsey Evenson, who was born on August 25, 1845, in Norway and who is the daughter of Evan and Gunhild(Knutson) Evenson. In 1861 Mrs. Brekke's parents came to Dane county, Wisconsin, and there both died. Mr. and Mrs. Halvor G. Brekke have been the parents of four children, Gustav Severin, Emma, Emma and Henry Benjamin. Gustav Severin, who was born on the farm where he now lives on April 28, 1878, married Huldah Johnson, who was born in Friberg township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, December 7, 1889. They have no children. He is employed on the old homestead. Emma, the second child, is deceased. Emma, the third child, married Louis Halvorson and has five children, Eleanor, Morris, Bertha, Harry and Ida. Henry Benjamin lives at Dilworth, Minnesota.

Halvor G. Brekke has served as a member of the school board in Aurdal township and has also served as **trustee of the township** and as supervisor for fourteen years. He was assessor of the township for sixteen years. Mr. and Mrs. Brekke and family are active members of the Lutheran church.

ARNE ENGBRETSON.

Arne Engbretson, a well-known farmer of Aurdal township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, was born on November 4, 1850, in Norway, and is the son of Engbret Gunderson and Raghild (Olson) Engbretson, who spent their entire lives in Norway. Arne Engbretson was their only child.

Mr. Engbretson was educated in the public schools of his native land, and in 1882 came to America and settled at Fergus Falls, Minnesota.

A short time after coming to this country he moved to Aurdal township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, and purchased eighty acres of land, where he now lives. This land has been subsequently increased to about one hundred and twelve acres and is located in sections 15, 10 and 9, Aurdal township. Mr. Engbretson is a farmer and stockman. His land is highly productive and he raises all crops common to this latitude.

In 1870 Arne Engbretson was married in Norway to Mary Olson, a native of Norway, born in 1851. She is the daughter of Ole Severson and Jennie Severson, who, in 1882, came to America and settled in Otter Tail county. Mrs. Engbretson's father died in 1914, and her mother died in the same year, both being eighty-eight years old at the time of their deaths. Mr. and Mrs. Engbretson have seven children, Ole, Engbret, Richard, Anton, Gustav, Oscar and Hannah.

Arne Engebretson is independent in politics. He and his family are members of the Lutheran church. Mr. Engebretson has served as supervisor of Aurdal township and has also served as a member of the school board. Likewise, he has been assessor of Aurdal township for seven years. It may be said of Arne Engebretson that he has worthily discharged all of the duties of life, both public and private, and that he has a host of friends in the township and county where he lives.

AUGUST AND WILLIAM TRENNE.

Among the prosperous farmers and successful stock raisers of Oscar township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, are August and William Trenne, the former born on August 25, 1883, the latter on January 15, 1880, in Oscar township, Otter Tail county, sons of Fritz and Charlotte (Druskey) Trenne, natives of Germany. Fritz Trenne was educated in the common schools of Germany, he later becoming a soldier of the German army and taking part in the war with Austria, in 1866, and in the Franco-Prussian War, during the years 1870-71. During the last year of his military career, Fritz Trenne served as an officer in the army of his native country. Shortly following his marriage, the elder Trenne, in 1872, came to America and located in Otter Tail county, Minnesota, where he bought one hundred and sixty acres of land in Oscar township, a place which Fritz Trenne cultivated until 1907, when he retired and moved to Fergus Falls, where he lived until his death, on October 12, 1912. Charlotte, the widow of Fritz Trenne, now lives at Fergus Falls. Fritz Trenne was not only a successful farmer, as one who acquired six hundred and fifty-three acres of land, but he was a man prominent in the affairs of his community, having been the occupant of several township school offices. Fritz and Charlotte Trenne were the parents of eleven children, Paul, Lena, William, Elizabeth, Tillie, August, Emily, Martin, Frenchie, Minnie and Malvine.

William Trenne was educated in the schools of district No. III, Oscar township, Otter Tail county, after which he engaged in general farming and stock raising, an occupation which Mr. Trenne is now following on his well-improved farm of two hundred acres in Oscar township. In addition to his farm activity, William Trenne is prominently connected in business life, he being one of the organizers and a stockholder of the Elizabeth Creamery Company, as well as being an officer of the Cream of Barley Company, of Minneapolis.

On November 3, 1904, William Trenne was married to Ida Krause, a native of the state of Nebraska, and to this marriage have been born four children, Walter, Francis, Alfred and Inis.

August Trenne, after his school days, became a farmer, he taking

charge of the old Trenne homestead, which Mr. Trenne has greatly improved and a farm of two hundred and forty acres which August Trenne has brought to a high state of cultivation. Mr. Trenne now gives his time to general farming and the raising of large numbers of good grade live stock.

On June 24, 1915, August Trenne was married to Johannah Greenogle, the daughter of John Greenogle and wife, prominent people of their community. The Trenne family are all prominent members of the Norwegian Lutheran church, of Oscar township, they giving of their efforts and means for the support of the work of this congregation.

NELS T. MOEN.

One of the active and progressive citizens of Fergus Falls, a good lawyer and writer and a good talker, gifted particularly with fine powers of description, is Nels T. Moen, editor and manager of the Ugeblad Publishing Company and municipal judge of Fergus Falls.

Nels T. Moen was born in Freeborn county, Minnesota, May 26, 1866, the son of Tollef and Mary (Nelson) Moen. When Tollef Nelson was twenty-two years old, in 1856, he and his brother landed in Quebec, Canada, after a fourteen weeks voyage on the ocean from Norway. Upon arriving in Quebec, the two brothers borrowed enough money to reach their destination, traveling by land and by canal boat until they reached Michigan. From Michigan they walked several hundred miles, finally reaching their uncle's home at Big Canoe, Iowa.

Tollef Nelson and his brother farmed in Iowa for a time and then moved to Waseca county, Minnesota, where they worked at farming on shares. Later they moved to the next county, Freeborn, and there worked in the same way. In 1868, they purchased a yoke of oxen and a wagon and moved to Otter Tail county, settling in Tumuli township. They each took a homestead near Dalton and there Tollef Nelson spent the rest of his life, his death occurring in October, 1895.

Tollef Nelson and his wife, who before her marriage was Mary Larson, were the parents of twelve children, four of whom died in infancy, those who survived being as follow: Carrie, who is the wife of T. O. Udbye and lives in Fergus Falls; Nels T., the subject of this sketch; Inger, who is now Mrs. P. C. Svensrud and lives on the old homestead; Lars, who also lives on part of the old homestead; Martin, who is a resident of Fergus Falls; Anton, who is a resident of Canada; Thore, who lives in Fergus Falls, and Eline, who married Emil Brusven and lives at Rothsay, Minnesota.

Nels T. Moen received his elementary education in the public schools of Tumuli township, this county. He first attended school in a dug-out, later in a log house and still later in a frame building. He remained on a



NELS T. MOEN.

farm with his parents until 1893 and, after graduating from the Red Wing Seminary, attended the University of Minnesota and was graduated from the law department of that institution. After finishing his legal education, Mr. Moen moved to Ada, in Norman county, but, subsequently, was offered the position of principal of the school at Halstead, which he accepted. In addition to his duties as principal of the school, he practiced law in the evening. In 1897 Mr. Moen returned to Ada, where he remained for ten years, having in the meantime been elected judge of the probate of Norman county, in which capacity he served for two terms. He also served as county attorney for one term.

In 1907 Mr. Moen, who is a vigorous and capable opponent of the liquor traffic, accepted the position of state attorney for the anti-saloon league of Minnesota, and served in that capacity for two years, or until 1909, in which year he moved to Fergus Falls. As a platform orator in behalf of temperance, Mr. Moen has few superiors in this state and to the cause of temperance he has given service equal to that of any man who has labored in this great cause.

After Mr. Moen's removal to Fergus Falls, he engaged in the practice of law. During the legislative session of 1911, he served as chief clerk to the re-apportionment committee and in the same year was appointed municipal judge of Fergus Falls by Governor Eberhart. In 1912 he was elected to the same office. One year previously, Mr. Moen became editor and manager of the *Ugeblad Publishing Company*, the publishers of the *Fergus Falls Ugeblad*, the oldest Scandinavian paper west of the "twin cities."

In 1893 Mr. Moen was married to Betsy Johnson, who died in 1908, leaving four sons, Thomas O., Milford A., Neal B. and Caroll. On December 26, 1911, Mr. Moen married, secondly, Ingeborg Stortroen.

During the summer of 1914, Mr. Moen traveled in Norway and visited his ancestral home in that picturesque country. The Moen family are all members of the Lutheran church.

ANDERS A. BERGRUD.

Anders A. Bergrud, who has made a success of farming in Aurdal township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, is a native of Norway, born there on July 23, 1851, the son of Andrew A. and Sigrid (Hengsley) Bergrud, both of whom were born in Norway.

Mr. Bergrud's parents came to America and to Otter Tail county, Minnesota, in 1883. His father died in this county in 1896. His mother is now living in Sverdrup, and is eighty-four years old.

Mr. Bergrud was educated in Norway and in 1878 came to Otter Tail

county. Two years later he homesteaded eighty acres of land in the county and, shortly thereafter, erected good buildings on the farm. He now has one hundred and sixty acres of land in his home farm, and has added forty acres in section 21, eighty acres in section 21 and forty acres in another tract, also in section 21, all bought after the first one hundred and sixty.

On November 23, 1879, Mr. Bergrud was married to Sigrid Boen, who was born in Norway on November 7, 1856, and who is the daughter of Erick Trond Boen, mentioned elsewhere in this volume. Mr. and Mrs. Bergrud have been the parents of five children, Celia Ida, Alfred, Theodore N., Inga and Henry. Celia Ida, born in 1880, is the wife of Olaf Haave and has four children, Selma, Alvin, Benne and Margaret. Alfred, born on November 25, 1881, was educated in the public schools and lives at home with his parents. He has charge of the farm and is engaged in general farming and stock raising. He also owns forty acres of land in Aurdal township. Theodore N., born in 1883, died in 1907. Inga, born in 1886, is the wife of Peter Weggeland. Henry was born on May 27, 1896.

Mr. and Mrs. Bergrud and family occupy a comfortable and commodious home in Aurdal township and are among the most highly respected citizens living in this township.

ANDREW BRAATEN.

A successful farmer of Aurdal township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, is Andrew Braaten, who was born in Moore county, Minnesota, September 4, 1869.

Mr. Braaten is the son of Eric and Gunel Braaten, both of whom were born in Norway, the father on September 27, 1827, and the mother on December 3, 1836. After their marriage in Norway, they came to America, in 1869, and settled in Mower county, Minnesota. Three years later they settled in Aurdal township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, homesteading one hundred and twenty acres of land, where their son, Andrew, now lives, and where he was reared. Eric Braaten was able to clear some of this land before his death in 1902. He also made many improvements upon the farm. His widow is still living. They had a family of five children, of whom Andrew was the fourth. The other children were Hannah Karine, Ragnhild and Nellie. Of these children, Hannah is deceased.

Andrew Braaten was reared principally on the farm which he now owns. He was educated in the public schools of Aurdal township and, as soon as he was old enough, took up farming with his father. Mr. Braaten owns two hundred and eighty acres of land and occupies a fine residence.

Andrew Braaten was married in 1896 to Lena Aas, who was born in Aurdal township and who is the daughter of Christopher and Gertrude Aas.

early settlers in Aurdal township, Otter Tail county. Both of Mrs. Braaten's parents are deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Braaten have four children, Grace, Geneva, Erick and Amy.

Mr. and Mrs. Braaten are members of and take an active part in the Lutheran church of Aurdal township. The members of the Braaten family are also identified with this church. Not only is Mr. Braaten a most successful farmer, but he is a highly intelligent and valuable citizen in the community where he has lived for so many years.

JOHN O. SVIEN.

John O. Svien, well-known farmer and citizen, who by the conduct of his life in the community, has won a prominent place in the ranks of citizenship, and who, as the result of an unselfish life in the interests of the township and county, has a host of friends and appreciative fellow citizens, was born in Goodhue county, Minnesota, on April 25, 1872, the son of Ove J. and Ingrid (Boe) Svien, Ove J. Svien being the son of Johannes and Anna (Lunde) Svien, who were born in Norway and came to America in the year 1856, locating in the state of Wisconsin, later going to the state of Iowa, where they lived for some time and then came to Minnesota, settling in Goodhue county, where they spent their last days. Ingrid Boe is the daughter of Aslak and Bertha Boe, who were farmers in their native land of Norway, where they lived their entire lives.

Ove J. and Ingrid Svien, parents of the subject of this sketch, were born in Norway, where the father lived until he was nine years of age, and then came to America, the mother coming with relatives when she was twenty-two years of age. On reaching America, Ove J. Svien became a farmer on eighty acres of land which he secured in Goodhue county, Minnesota, on which he lived until the year 1896, and then moved to Grant county, Minnesota, where he bought two hundred and forty acres of land, which he farmed until the year 1912, at which time Ove J. Svien retired and moved to the city of St. Paul, Minnesota, where he still lives. Ove J. and Ingrid Svien were the parents of eight children, John, Anna, Aslak, Bertha, Andrew, Henry, Emma and John Bonchard. In religious affiliation, Ove J. Svien and his family are members of the United Lutheran church.

John O. Svien received his education in the common schools of Goodhue county, Minnesota, after which he came, in the year 1896, to Otter Tail county, Minnesota, and rented a farm in Tumuli township, where he lived for two years and then he went to the state of North Dakota, homesteading a farm of one hundred and sixty acres, on which he lived for twelve years, in that state. After this time John O. Svien returned to Otter Tail county, Minnesota, and bought a farm of one hundred and sixty-three acres in

Tumuli township, near the village of Dalton, where he now lives and follows general agricultural pursuits.

During the year 1905 John O. Svien was married to Lena Brekke, who was born in Tumuli township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, the daughter of Johannes Brekke and wife. To the marriage of John O. and Lena Svien were born two children, Inez Othelia and Truman Julian. John O. Svien and his wife and children are members and active workers and supporters of the United Lutheran church at Dalton.

In political life John O. Svien has taken no particular part, but has chosen to be a good citizen of private life and to serve his community, as he can, from the common walks of life and citizenship.

JOSEPH A. OTTE.

Among the younger men of Otter Tail county, Minnesota, business and financial circles, is Joseph A. Otte, cashier of the State Bank of Bluffton, a citizen whose life is proving of great value to the community, not only in the business world, but as a man who is interested in the development of his town and township to a greater and higher plane in the various lines of endeavor and activity in which they are engaged. A man of thorough culture, one with excellent preparation for the profession in which he is so capably engaged, a citizen who in those things to which he has laid his hands has been peculiarly successful, and a man who because of the force and strength of his life has a host of friends and admiring fellow citizens, he is worthy of a prominent place in the ranks of leading men in Otter Tail county, Minnesota.

Joseph A. Otte was born in Stearns county, Minnesota, on November 4, 1887, the son of William and Mary (Macks) Otte, both of whom were born in Germany and lived in that country until about the year 1880, when, having married, they came to America and located in Stearns county, Minnesota, where William Otte settled on a farm one and one-half miles north of Melrose. William and Mary Otte were the parents of seven children, Mary, Anna, Bernard, William, Joseph, Catherine and Henry. In religious affiliation the elder Otte and his family are communicants in the Roman Catholic church.

Joseph A. Otte received his early education in the common schools of Melrose, Minnesota, later attending St. Joseph's University at Columbus, Ohio, for three years, and then pursuing a business and commercial course, including shorthand and typewriting at Saul Centre, Minnesota, after which he accepted a position as first bookkeeper of the State Bank of Monticello, Minnesota, where he remained for two years and then went to Buffalo, Minnesota, and became deputy auditor for two and one-half years; then

coming to Bluffton, Minnesota, he aided in the establishment of the State Bank of Bluffton, Minnesota, an institution of which he was made cashier, a position which he now occupies, and one which he holds in a most efficient and capable manner.

On May 22, 1911, Joseph A. Otte was married to Alice Granger, and has made for himself and his wife an excellent home, the hospitality of which is well known throughout the community. Joseph A. Otte and his wife are members of the Roman Catholic church.

Not only in the financial world is Joseph A. Otte a success but in agricultural life, as the owner of a large farm, consisting of one hundred and twenty acres of well cultivated land, in Blowers township and, also as the holder of considerable stock in the State Bank of Bluffton, this worthy man has shown himself to be of a type of which the locality may be proud.

In public life Joseph A. Otte has not neglected his duty as a citizen in the community, but has given of his valuable time freely for the promotion of local interests and he is now serving the village of Bluffton as its village clerk, in an unselfish and progressive manner, as is characteristic of this man whom all delight to honor and to whose character and worth all are willing to attest.

HENRY P. NELSON.

Henry P. Nelson, a prosperous farmer of Aurdal township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, was born on the old Aurdal township farm, August 10, 1888, and is the son of Nels E. and Methe (Hallan) Nelson, both of whom were born in Norway, the former on December 17, 1844, and the latter on January 6, 1850.

Nels E. Nelson's parents were Ingebret and Aaste Nelson, both of whom were born in Norway and who came to America and settled in Aurdal township in 1868. They took a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres and both died on the homestead farm. Mr. Nelson's father came from Norway to Minnesota with his parents. He settled in Goodhue county and was also a pioneer in Aurdal township. Later he took up one hundred and sixty acres of land and made many improvements upon the farm, which he acquired from the government. After having made a large quantity of brick, he erected a magnificent brick residence on the farm and lived in this home until his death, in 1909. His widow is still living. They were the parents of five children, Peter, Haldon, Anna, Nels and Henry P. Mr. Nelson's parents were members of the Lutheran church.

Henry P. Nelson was educated in the public schools of Aurdal township and reared on the farm which his parents owned. Mr. Nelson himself owns a farm of one hundred and sixty acres of land in Aurdal township.

which is a part of the old homestead. He also owns other land in this county. In 1911 Mr. Nelson built a splendid home on the farm. He is a general farmer and stockman and has been very successful although he is still a young man.

On June 28, 1913, Henry P. Nelson was married to Emma Bye, the daughter of Stephen and Betsy Bye, and who was born in Sverdrup township. Mrs. Nelson's parents were early settlers of Sverdrup township. They have one son, Searle LeRoy, who was born on March 29, 1914.

Mr. and Mrs. Nelson are members of the Lutheran church.

NELS N. ROVANG.

A veteran of the Civil War, during the campaigns of which he made an enviable record, a pioneer citizen of Otter Tail county, who did much to make the district habitable in the early days, a citizen who in the public life of Tumuli township has shown himself to be a man of much worth, and one whose general life in the community has been such as to win for him a host of friends and admiring fellow citizens who delight in honoring his name, no record of life or review of events in Otter Tail county would be complete without reference to the career of Nels N. Rovang, the subject of this sketch.

Nels N. Rovang was born in Norway on July 19, 1839, the son of Nels and Anna (Halverson) Olson Rovang, both of whom were born in Norway, where they made their home until the year 1850, when they came to America and located near the town of Madison, Wisconsin, living there for two years and then moved near the town of Decorah, Iowa, where Nels Rovang bought a farm of one hundred and sixty acres of land, on which he farmed for about five years and then sold his place and went to Wabash county, Minnesota, there buying one hundred and sixty acres of United States government land, for which he paid the sum of one dollar and twenty-five cents per acre. There, on a farm which he had improved until it was one of the most desirable of the township, the elder Rovang and his wife spent their last days. Nels and Anna Rovang were the parents of ten children, two of whom were veterans of the Civil War: Nels N., the subject of this sketch, who served until the end of the war, with Company A, Third Regiment Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, and Christ, who served nearly four years with Company C, Tenth Regiment, Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, and who was killed in action at Nashville, Tennessee.

Following his service in the Civil War, Nels N. Rovang returned to Wabasha county, Minnesota, and in partnership with a brother-in-law, bought one hundred and sixty acres of land, on which they farmed for two years and then selling their land, they moved to Otter Tail county, Minnesota, in the year 1868, and located in Tumuli township, where Nels N. Rovang home-

steaded one hundred and sixty acres of land southeast of the town of Dalton, where he now lives in retirement with a son, who operates the farm.

On November 29, 1865, Nels N. Rovang was married to Ingeborg Johnson Dahlager, who was born in Norway, and who came to America and settled in the state of Iowa with her parents, who were farmers. To the marriage of Nels N. and Ingeborg Rovang were born the following children: Martin, Anna, John, Julia, Christian, Emma and Otto. Mr. Rovang and his family are affiliated with the Norwegian Lutheran church, a congregation in which they are highly respected and esteemed for their lives and for their works in support of the creeds and policies of this denomination.

In the public and official life of Tumuli township, Nels N. Rovang is a citizen with a long and honorable record as a public servant, he having served for eight years as treasurer of Tumuli township, and for some years occupied the office of township supervisor, during which time much was done for the progress and advancement of the township and the county. Nels N. Rovang is among the esteemed citizens of the county.

CASPER LEIN.

Few men in the community life of Oscar township, this county, have taken a more active part in the civic affairs of that community than has Casper Lein, a well-known and prosperous retired farmer of that section of the county, who since 1871 has been a resident of Otter Tail county. Successful in his farming ventures, Mr. Lein also has been prominently connected with other enterprises of a profitable character and is regarded as one of the most substantial men in his community. For some years he has been living a life of retirement from the active duties of the farm, his broad acres long ago having been turned over to his sturdy sons and he is now "taking life easy."

Casper Lein was born in the kingdom of Norway on January 7, 1842, son of Jacob Lein, a farmer and deep-sea fisherman, who came to America in his latter days and died in Iowa, while on a visit to his son, B. M. Lein, in that state. Jacob Lein and his wife were the parents of seven children, namely: John P., who is living at Holt, this state; B. M., deceased; Casper, the immediate subject of this biographical sketch; Jonas, who lives in Iowa; Mary, who lives in Pipestone county, this state; Christina, who lives in the eastern part of Montana, and Martin, who lives in Burleigh county, North Dakota. Jacob Lein and his wife, Mattie, were members of the Lutheran church and their children grew up in the strict observance of the tenets of that faith.

Reared and educated in his native country, Casper Lein did not come

to America until he was twenty-six years of age. It was in 1868 that he landed in Quebec, shortly thereafter entering the United States, proceeding to Iowa, where for about two years he remained in Winneshiek county, engaged as a farm laborer. At the end of that time he decided to homestead a farm in Minnesota and with that end in view came to Otter Tail county, the long journey being made by ox-team. Arriving in this county, he pre-empted one hundred and sixty-three acres in Oscar township and proceeded to make a home for himself and his wife, he having married in Iowa, in 1869, Christine Moe, who also was born in Norway, and who through all their years of activity in this county has proved a competent and valuable helpmate to him. From the very start, Casper Lein prospered and as he became financially able added from time to time to his land holdings until at one time he was the owner of four hundred acres of choice land surrounding his home. As he retired from the active life of the farm, however, he disposed of a part of this and turned the remainder over to his children, who are now managing the estate, he making his home with his son, Oscar, on the old home place.

To Casper and Christine (Moe) Lein nine children have been born, Olaf, John, Nicoline, Bernard, Sophia, Carl, Oscar, Matilda and Attin. Mr. and Mrs. Lein are active and prominent members of the Lutheran church in their neighborhood, of which Mr. Lein has been the treasurer for the past thirty-four years, and their children were brought up to the faithful observance of the tenets of that faith. Active in all neighborhood good works, Mr. and Mrs. Lein long have been held in the warmest esteem throughout that part of the county and no one thereabout has more friends than have they.

For years Casper Lein has served the public faithfully and well as a justice of the peace in Oscar township and since 1885 has been clerk of the school district. From 1873 to 1906 he served as clerk of the township and for thirty-eight years was the township assessor. He was postmaster from 1900 to 1906, at Oscar. During several decades he served the government as a collector of census statistics and also assisted several times in taking the census of the state of Minnesota. For twelve years he was the secretary-treasurer of the Oscar Township Farmers Mutual Insurance Association and is still serving as one of the directors of that excellent organization. He also is a stockholder in the Carlisle Elevator Company and owns a good-sized block of stock in the Carlisle Bank as well as in the Scandinavian Bank of Fergus Falls. The civic distinctions which have come to Mr. Lein during his long and busy life in this county are ample evidences of the regard in which he is held generally in the community and his friends very properly are proud of the honors which have been bestowed upon him.

JOHN SANFRED KALLERMAN.

Born in Sweden, the scion of a sturdy race of farmers, swindled out of the possession of his farm in Sweden, a penniless emigrant to the United States, and now a retired farmer living in Wadena, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, and a man who has the satisfaction of knowing that his has been a successful career in the agricultural life of Otter Tail county and that to himself alone is due the success which he so deservedly has won—such, in brief, is the life of the person whose name forms the caption of this biographical review.

John Sanfred Kallerman was born in Skaraborgsland, Sweden, at the picturesque village of Skofde, on December 23, 1849, the son of James Olson and Cajsallea Johnson, both natives of Sweden, the former born in 1809 and the latter in 1813. Both were reared to manhood and womanhood and married in Skaraborgsland. Jonas Olson came in possession of the farm upon which his ancestors had lived for so many generations and devoted himself to general farming. Both he and his beloved wife died on the old homestead, the former in 1878 and the latter in 1889. To Jonas Olson and Cajsallea Johnson were born four children, as follow: Lorenzo, who is a prosperous and successful farmer living on a farm in Sweden; Matilda, who married John Larson and lives in Sweden; John Sanfred Kallerman, the subject of this sketch; and Franz August, a major in the Swedish army, who lives at Stockholm.

John Sanfred Kallerman was educated in the public schools of Sweden and later pursued his secondary education in the high school of his native land. Being reared on the farm, he early in life became a farmer and followed husbandry for a time. Later, however, he became a grocer in Sodertulge, near Stockholm, in the meantime retaining his farm, which bore the name of "Bamberslök." Having received an offer to trade his farm for a larger farm located in the south of Sweden, he accepted the offer only to find to his loss that he had been swindled and could never recover the farm for which he had traded, thereby losing a sum equivalent to ten thousand dollars. Now a poor man, he emigrated to America alone and after a perilous trip landed with but twenty cents in his possession.

Mr. Kallerman came immediately to Wadena, Minnesota, and worked for various railroad companies, boat builders and on neighboring farms. In the same fall, on October 12, 1886, his beloved wife and his two sons joined him in his new home, and in 1887 he homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres in section 12, of Bluffton township, Otter Tail county. At the time this land was wild, uncultivated and covered with a heavy brush. There were no roads or other improvements. After building a log cabin on the same location as the present site of the country home, he began to clear the land and

to put it to cultivation. Later he added new buildings and began to specialize in the raising of cattle. Still later he bought one hundred and sixty acres adjoining his original tract, eighty acres in section 1 and forty acres in section 12, of Bluffton township. About the year 1912 he sold his farm to his two sons, and for twenty years operated a threshing outfit and saw-mill, at the expiration of which time he retired and moved to Wadena, where he bought a home and invested in other real estate.

On November 16, 1875, John Sanfred Kallerman was married to Sophia Emily Anderson, a native of Sweden and the daughter of Anders Bengtson and Brita Maria Carlhon. To this happy union there have been born two children, Allen F. and Matteas L., who purchased and have operated their father's farm in Bluffton township. Allen F. has been prominent in local politics and has served as township clerk.

John Sanfred Kallerman, as a Democrat, has held many local political offices, including township supervisor, school director and delegate to the state convention, and has filled all positions to the entire satisfaction of his constituency. His interest in local politics has been a deep one and ever directed toward the public welfare. Both he and his beloved wife are devoted members of the Lutheran church. To him is tendered the respect and confidence of a host of friends and the admiration of the good citizens of Bluffton township.

Mr. Kallerman has at various times been a public school official and has always been a strong supporter of free public education. He is opposed to various systems of private and parochial schools and has expressed the hope that all parochial schools may be abolished.

O. J. SUTTER.

One of the well-known farmers of Compton township, this county, was O. J. Sutter, a native of Sweden, who died on September 10, 1914, at the age of sixty-nine years. The late O. J. Sutter was married at the time he came to America, in 1882. The Sutter family came to this country in company with the Johnson family, who were also early settlers of Compton township, Otter Tail county. After landing in America, the Sutter family moved to Wadena, Minnesota, but later settled on the farm where the family now lives.

In the spring of 1882, after arriving in the state of Minnesota, the late O. J. Sutter purchased a homestead right of eighty acres from Nels Anderson, and, at the time of his death, in September, 1914, had about one hundred acres of land. The farm was all wild land when the Sutters settled upon it, nearly thirty-five years ago, and O. J. Sutter made most of the improvements on the farm.

Of the six children born to O. J. Sutter and wife, two are married, Anna and John. The other children are Matilda, Olaf, Mea and Charles.

O. J. Sutter was one of the organizers of the Swedish Lutheran church, of Compton township, and, for many years, was one of the deacons in the church. He was also a Sunday school teacher and superintendent of the Sunday school. Mr. Sutter was not interested in politics, but devoted practically all of his time and energy to his family, his home, his church and his farm.

Olaf Sutter was educated in the common schools of Compton township and also at Northwestern College, at Fergus Falls, Minnesota, which he attended after finishing the common school course.

Upon completing a two-years' course at Northwestern College, Mr. Sutter returned to the farm and has lived there ever since. Olaf Sutter is now the town clerk and is an ardent Republican in politics. He belongs to the Lutheran church.

OLOF PARY.

Perhaps no citizen of New York Mills, or of Otter Tail county, has served his community more unselfishly, or to greater or to more permanent and practical good, than has Olof Pary, pioneer business man, philanthropist and honored man of New York Mills. Public spirited, benevolent and tenacious in his determination that Otter Tail county should have those things without which it could not reach its present state of prosperity, and ever ready to make personal sacrifice for the realization of his patriotic ambitions in the interests of his locality, he is today one of the most esteemed citizens in the county.

Olof Pary was born in the northern part of Finland, very near to Lapland, on July 7, 1852, the son of Olof and Annie Margaret (Halvor) Pary, who were born at that place, the father on October 21, 1814, and the mother on November 25, 1822. Olof Pary, Sr., was a farmer of his native land, working on his own land, until the year 1871, when with his wife and five children, he came to America and went to the town of Michigammi, Michigan, where he was employed generally for some years, and then, in the year 1887, he came to Otter Tail county, Minnesota, where his son, Olof, who had preceded, was living. At this place Olof Pary, Sr., lived in retirement until he died, on January 30, 1904, his wife, Annie, surviving him until her death, on January 14, 1910. Olof and Annie Pary were the parents of the following children: Abraham, a farmer of Otter Tail county, who is deceased; Olof, the subject of this sketch; Henry, a farmer of Newton township; Lizzie, who married Theodore Anderson and lives in Newton town-

ship; and Mary, who married Isaac Peterson, who died, and who later married John Majava, and they live in Newton township.

Olof Pary was educated in the public schools of Finland and in the public schools of Michigan, Michigan, after which he worked for seven years on railroads of the state of Michigan and in Canada, and then, during the year 1881, he came to Otter Tail county, Minnesota, arriving on July 14, and shortly following which he established a store at a small unsurveyed settlement, which later became the present town of New York Mills. At the time of his settlement at New York Mills, Olof Pary found but two stores being conducted, one known as the Winslow store and the other known as the Blowers store, both of which are places of history now.

After fourteen years as a merchant Olof Pary invested in the stock of a flour-mill at Washburn, North Dakota, a concern with which he was identified for about three years. In 1898 he sold his interests and joined the gold seekers of Alaska, in which country he remained for three years, during which time he conducted a general store and at the same time worked on claims, after which he returned to New York Mills, where he lived for a time. He then went to the state of Washington, where for about five years he was a prospector for gold and copper, and then, in the year 1908, Olof Pary again became a merchant of New York Mills, a business which he followed for some time and then he purchased the Farmers' Mercantile Association, which he conducted until selling to Charles A. Matala, when he retired from active business life.

During the year 1874 Olof Pary was married to Sarah Bippo, who was born in Finland, the daughter of John Bippo and wife. Sarah (Bippo) Pary died in the year 1904, she being the mother of one child, John, who grew to maturity, and is now a business man in Duluth, Minnesota. Olof Pary was married, secondly, during the year 1908, to Sarah P. Warner, the daughter of S. J. Warner and wife, who were early settlers in the state of Ohio, but who later moved to Springfield, Illinois, where they lived the remainder of their lives. Mr. and Mrs. Warner were the parents of eight children, as follow: Joseph P., Mrs. M. T. Swinney, Charles K., Mrs. Annie Belle Killins, William Woodrow, Mrs. Sarah Pary, John S. and Frank S.

Olof Pary has been known throughout the history of New York Mills and vicinity as one of the men interested in the development of the general interests of the community, and of these interests the one closest to the heart of this public-spirited citizen has been the matter of good roads for the township and for the county. During the pioneer days of Otter Tail county when Olof Pary settled in the district he, with Clinton Fiske, August Sitz and A. S. Blowers, were the township board which not only assisted in the laying

out of public highways, but helped in the labor of the project, and gave of their money that Otter Tail county might be better opened to settlement and to intercourse with the outside world. Olof Pary has served his township long and well as a member of the township board, and with the spirit of the true patriot has steadily refused to accept remuneration for his services, preferring to give of his efforts and of his judgment and experience in order that the community, of which he is the oldest living settler, may be a better place for posterity.

Olof Pary is a man of important and conspicuous affiliations, not only in the Republican party, of which he is a supporter and which he has represented in convention, both county and state, but in the local offices of president of the school board and as a member of the town council, offices to which he has been elected almost without opposition, and without seeking, and in fraternal circles. Olof Pary is prominently associated as a Mason, an organization in which, during his twenty-one years as a member, he has received the degrees of the blue lodge No. 159, at Perham, and the Scottish Rite, as well as the Shriner honors, at Minneapolis.

Olof Pary is a supporter of all the churches of New York Mills, he taking interest in their affairs and their activities and lending his support, both moral and financial, to their work.

The life of Olof Pary has been long and good, of great service to his community, and one which will make an important part of the history of life and events in Otter Tail county.

DANIEL ANDERSON.

Born in Sweden, March 31, 1854, Daniel Anderson, a prosperous farmer of Compton township, is the son of A. D. Sutter and Christina Nelson, who were natives of Sweden. Mr. Anderson's paternal grandfather was also Daniel Anderson by name, who died in Sweden, where he was a farmer by occupation and where he owned a large tract of land. He was a member of the Lutheran church.

Mr. Anderson's father, A. D. Sutter, was a farmer in the old country, and, after coming to America, lived retired. He came to this country in 1883 and lived with his son, Daniel Anderson, until his death, in November, 1905. His wife died in April, 1912. They were members of the Lutheran church and reared a family of three children, of whom Daniel, the subject of this sketch, was the eldest. The other children were Margaret and Christine.

Educated in the public schools of the old country, Daniel Anderson came to America in 1881 and, after landing at Philadelphia, came direct to Minnesota. Two years later he purchased land in Compton township, this county.

Mr. Anderson began his career as a farmer in Compton township with eighty acres in section 21, which he subsequently increased to two hundred acres, but some of it has been divided among his sons. He gave eighty acres of his farm to his son, A. D. Anderson, and eighty acres to his son, W. D. Anderson.

On March 20, 1880, Daniel Anderson was married to Christine Norden, a native of Sweden, and to them have been born seven children, Andrew, John, William, Benjamin (deceased), Ella, Nanna and Amanda.

Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Anderson are members of the Mission church. Mr. Anderson has served as supervisor of Compton township for six years, but is no longer serving in this office. He also served as school treasurer for one term in Compton township. Daniel Anderson is a prosperous farmer, a useful citizen and is popular among all of the people in the community where he resides and by whom he is well known.

JOHN NORDIN.

Born in Sweden on April 25, 1853, John Nordin, a well-to-do farmer of Compton township, owns one hundred and sixty acres of land, of which his father at one time owned a part.

Mr. Nordin is a son of John Johnson and Carin Matson and the grandson of John Johnson, Sr., a farmer by occupation, who owned land in his native country of Sweden. The paternal grandfather was a devout member of the Lutheran church.

In 1883 Mr. and Mrs. John Johnson, the parents of John Nordin, sold their farm in Sweden and came to America, locating in Otter Tail county, Minnesota, where Mr. Nordin's father purchased land in section 21, of Compton township. He gradually added to his original purchase until he was the owner of one hundred and twenty acres at the time of his death. His first purchase of land in this county consisted of one hundred and forty acres, and this is a part of the farm upon which his son, John Nordin, now lives. Mr. Nordin's father had received military training in his native land, and was a faithful and devout member of the Lutheran church. His death occurred in December, 1893, his wife having passed away previously, in March, 1890. They were the parents of four children, of whom, John, the immediate subject of this review, is the eldest. Mats, the next youngest born, died at the age of fifteen years, while the other two living children are Christena and Margaret.

John Nordin received a liberal education in the public schools of Sweden and was a teacher in the graded schools of that country for nine years. Upon coming to America with his parents, he settled with them on the farm where he is now living.

On March 25, 1880, John Nordin was married to Margaret Anderson, who is also a native of Sweden, and to this union have been born five children, Axel, Emil, Robert, Anna and Freda, all of whom are living at home with their parents, with the exception of Axel, who is engaged in the cement business at Wadena.

In 1907 Mr. Nordin built a splendid new barn, thirty-five by fifty feet, and in 1914 he constructed a large concrete silo. The house in which the family lives was rebuilt in 1914, and all of the buildings and equipment about the farm are modern and up-to-date. Mr. Nordin is a dairy farmer and keeps always twelve cows or more.

The Nordin family are members of the Mission church, in which they take an active and interested part.

JOHN NORGREN.

Conspicuous among American citizens from Sweden is found the name of John Norgren, who keeps well in line with American progress, and is performing his part in the business affairs of the agricultural district of Fergus Falls, Minnesota, where he has won for himself a name representing industry and energy, and where he has become a potent factor along agricultural lines.

John Norgren, farmer, Fergus Falls, Elizabeth township, was born on February 8, 1845, in Sweden, and is a son of Magnus Johnson, the name of Norgren being an adopted one, and was taken from the name of a farm in Sweden. He received his education in the public schools of Sweden, and came to America when he was twenty-one years of age, landing at New York in 1866, coming first to Minnesota, after which he went to Wisconsin, where he was engaged in the lumber business for three years, at the end of which time he entered the employ of the Northern Pacific railroad at St. Louis, Minnesota. After discontinuing this work, Mr. Norgren followed his trade of stone mason for three years, coming to Otter Tail county in April, 1871, where he established a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres, and where he still resides. He has continued to add to his property until he now owns two hundred and nine acres of good agricultural land, one hundred and sixty acres in section 14 and forty-nine acres in section 4. He divides his time and attention between general farming and stock raising of all kinds. He has put all the improvements on the place, including good buildings of a character to correspond with the general surroundings, giving an appearance of care and prosperity to his farm, which is located two miles from the town of Elizabeth.

Mr. Norgren is a Republican, while his religious sympathies are with the Lutheran church, which he built, and for which he handled the lumber

with an ox team. He is an active worker in the church, of which he has been the leader for the past fifteen years. He has also been supervisor of the town board for fifteen years, and occupied the office of road supervisor for a number of years.

Magnus Johnson, father of Mr. Norgren, was a native of Sweden, where he and his wife, Marta (Christina) Johnson, lived and died. They were farmers, and owned a fine tract of land, consisting of two hundred and eighty acres. They were members of the Lutheran church, of which Mr. Johnson was a leader. He was a well-informed man, who always kept abreast with the times in his community. This marriage was blest with eight children: John, Anna, Christina, Andrew, John, Eva, Sarah (deceased) and Gusta. Of these children, Andrew, John and Christina were the only ones who came to America.

John Norgren was united in marriage on June 7, 1874, with Ellen Beckman, daughter of John Beckman. She was born in Sweden, and was twelve years old when she came with her parents to America. This union has been blest with the following children: Clif, Amanda, Anna, William, Ida, Rosie, Alfred, Elf, and two who died in infancy. Charles, Andrew, Amanda and Anna being the only married ones.

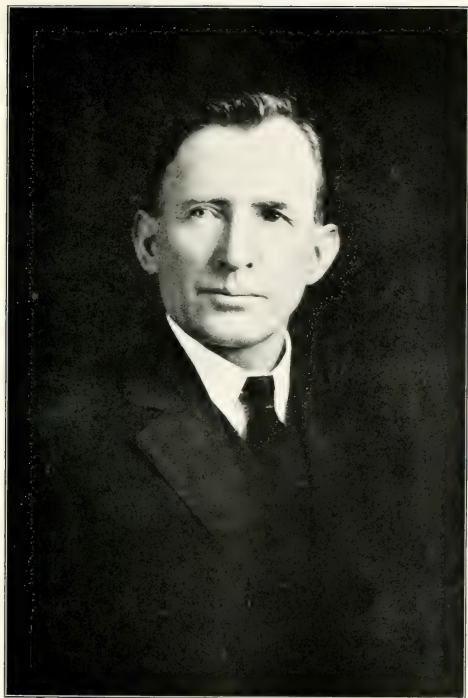
John Beckman, father of Mrs. John Norgren, was born in Sweden, and on his arrival in America located in Otter Tail county, Minnesota.

PAUL A. STORTROEN.

Paul A. Stortroen, treasurer of Otter Tail county for the past sixteen years, and a well-known and highly respected citizen of this county, is a native of Martel township, Pierce county, Wisconsin, where his birth occurred on October 22, 1864.

Mr. Stortroen is a son of Anders J. and Sigri (Bjerkeng) Stortroen, the former of whom was born at Tonset, Osterdalen, Norway, and who came to America about 1848, in company with his brother. Anders J. Stortroen located in Pierce county, Wisconsin, where he lived until 1883, in which year he came to Otter Tail county and purchased land in the Aastad neighborhood, where he farmed until 1902, when he retired and moved to Fergus Falls, where he spent the remainder of his life and where Mr. Stortroen's mother is still living.

Paul A. Stortroen was educated in the schools of Fergus Falls, and after his graduation from the high school was engaged for five years as a teacher in this county. He made a most commendable record as an instructor and was popular with school officials and with the patrons and pupils of the various communities in which he taught. At the end of five years of this



PAUL A. STORTROEN.

valuable form of public service, Mr. Stortroen was appointed as a clerk in the office of the register of deeds at Fergus Falls, which position he held for four years. Afterwards he was appointed deputy auditor of Otter Tail county, and served as clerk in the auditor's office for a period of eight years. He then spent a year on the farm, but in 1899 was again called to official life, having been elected treasurer of the county, a position which he now holds. For a quarter of a century Mr. Stortroen has been prominent in the political life of Otter Tail county, and is today well known among all classes of people.

By his marriage to Martha Tuve, a native of Wisconsin, Mr. Stortroen has had two children, Arthur and Noble, both of whom are living at home with their parents. The family are earnest and devoted members of the Evangelical Lutheran church, and are prominent workers in that denomination, being regular attendants at the services and liberal contributors to the support of the church.

AUGUST SCHMIDT.

August Schmidt, retired farmer of New York Mills, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, was born in Germany, December 21, 1858, the son of Henry and Sophia (Broemme) Schmidt, both of whom were natives of Germany. In 1872 Henry Schmidt came to America and located in Sibley county, Minnesota, where he lived for one year and then went to Redwood county, where he homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of land, on which he lived for some time, after which he disposed of his land and went to Lamberton, where he died in the year 1913, his widow, Sophia, surviving him until 1914. Henry and Sophia Schmidt were the parents of eight children, August, Fred, Dora, Frank, Minnie, Pauline, Alvine and Emma.

August Schmidt came to America, with his parents, when fourteen years of age, and after his school days he came to New York Mills, near where he bought a farm of four hundred acres, located in Homestead township, a place which he improved extensively and where he lived until the year 1914, when he retired from active life and moved to the town of New York Mills. Mr. Schmidt has a good and convenient home in New York Mills, where he now lives a quiet life.

During the year 1881 August Schmidt was married to Dora Hoche, who was born in Germany, where her parents lived their entire life. To the marriage of August and Dora Schmidt were born the following children, Herman, Frank, Louise, Hulda, Amanda, Walter, Fredonia and Waldemer.

August Schmidt has been prominently connected with the official life of his community, having served as supervisor of Homestead township for

twelve years and for a number of years was chairman of the board of supervisors. The part taken by Mr. Schmidt has done much to make the community better and more progressive among the townships of the county.

PETER BJORKLUND.

Peter Bjorklund, a prominent farmer of Henning township, this county, was born in Sweden on January 13, 1855. As the distance to school was too far he was educated by his mother at home. Mr. Bjorklund had read the Bible through several times before he came to America, in 1867, together with his parents. He settled in Otter Tail county, Minnesota, in 1871, and, for a time, attended the public schools of this county.

Mr. Bjorklund took a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres in Henning township, where he now lives. He has added to this land from year to year until he now owns six hundred and eighty acres, besides eighty acres which he gave to his son, Oscar. After the latter had received eighty acres from his father, he purchased eighty acres and erected good buildings upon the farm. Oscar Bjorklund installed the first milking machine in Henning township. Mr. Bjorklund's farm consists of five hundred and sixty acres in his home farm and one hundred and twenty acres in another farm in Henning township. He is a general farmer and stockman and a well-known breeder of Holstein cattle.

On December 26, 1880, Peter Bjorklund was married to Mary Larson, who was born in Norway in 1862, and who is the daughter of Herbrant and Borghild Larson. They moved to Dodge county in 1869 and later to Eagle Lake township, Otter Tail county, where Mrs. Bjorklund's father died. Her mother died near Thief River Falls, Minnesota. Mr. and Mrs. Bjorklund have been the parents of eleven children, of whom two, Ida and Richard, are deceased. The living children are Oscar, Clara, Hulda and Anna (twins), Herbert, Otto, Robert, Edgar and Edith.

Mr. Bjorklund is one of the wealthiest farmers of Henning township. He has served as a member of the school board for thirty-five years. The homestead where he lives was pre-empted in 1870 and two years later he got married and moved onto the farm. He has been a member of the township board for many years, serving as treasurer, supervisor and chairman of the board and president of the home telephone line. The Bjorklunds are members of the Swedish Baptist church at Henning and are very active in religious work.

Mr. Bjorklund's brother, August, who lives in Henning township, is also a prominent farmer. He was born in Sweden on July 8, 1862, and was four years old when the family came to America. He was reared in Eagle Lake

township and attended the public schools. He bought the old homestead of one hundred and sixty acres and added eighty acres to the farm. In 1912 he sold the farm and moved to Henning township, where he purchased two hundred and forty acres in section 1. Mr. and Mrs. August Bjorklund are members of the Swedish Baptist church at Henning. While a resident of Eagle Lake, August Bjorklund served on the school board and, for thirteen years, was township clerk. He also served twelve years as justice of the peace and twenty-five years as assessor. For two years he was postmaster of his home town.

On December 31, 1891, August Bjorklund was married to Anna Smith, the daughter of Olof and Mary Smith, of Fergus Falls, Minnesota. To them have been born five children, Erwin, Roy, Earl, Reuben and Gladys, all of whom are living except Earl, who is deceased.

Both Peter and August Bjorklund are enterprising farmers, well known and popular citizens. They have done much in behalf of the material development of Eagle Lake and of Henning townships and both enjoy the confidences of a host of friends in Otter Tail county.

H. H. STONE.

H. H. Stone has been a resident of Otter Tail county since 1900, coming here when he was sixteen years old. After attending the high school at Fulda and the St. Cloud Normal, he taught school for five years in this county and at the same time worked on the farm. In 1911 he discontinued teaching and since that time has given his entire attention to the cultivation of the soil. The year previous to that he had purchased over eighty acres and now owns the southeast quarter of section 2, in Elmo township. He engages in general farming and is a breeder of Galloway cattle and Duroc-Jersey hogs, having ten of the former and of the latter one hundred.

On October 30, 1910, H. H. Stone was married to Ethel L. Sparks, at Minneapolis. His wife is a native of Miller, South Dakota, but has lived in this county since 1902, and is a daughter of M. M. Sparks, at present a resident of Parkers Prairie, where he is engaged in the garage business. H. H. Stone and wife have two children, Martha Kate, born on October 5, 1911, and Sylvia Beth, born on December 17, 1912. In 1914 Mr. Stone erected a fine new barn, sixty-two by thirty-two feet, having a hip roof and concrete foundation.

Mr. Stone is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America, of the Royal Neighbors, and the Modern Brotherhood of America. He was census taker in the year 1910 and since that time has been assessor. He was, from the organization of district No. 275, clerk, his period of office extending

from 1907 to the present time. Mr. Stone is secretary of the Almora Co-operative Creamery. In politics, he is an independent voter. Mr. Stone's useful life is a striking example of what energy and perseverance will do, and it is gratifying that now he is able to enjoy the results of his skill.

HANS C. HANSON.

From the roll of public-spirited citizens, whose unselfish interests have done great things for the development of the county and for their more immediate vicinities, the name of Hans C. Hanson, of New York Mills, Minnesota, stands out conspicuously as one who, perhaps has done greater service for the public improvement of his home town and for the promotion of the business activities of his locality than any other of these desirable and valued citizens. A man of varied experience in life, one with broad knowledge of the activities of the business world, and a citizen who as a promoter and as an organizer has proved himself as one of unusual ability, this review of Otter Tail county would not be complete without reference to the work and achievements of this worthy citizen.

Hans C. Hanson was born in Denmark on the island of Fynn, on April 1, 1850, the son of Rasmus and Mary Hanson, who were likewise natives of Denmark. Rasmus Hanson is well known in his community for his record as a soldier in the war with Germany, when he received a medal for an act of bravery in cutting chains which were blockading the war area to the ships of his country. In private life, Rasmus Hanson was a farmer and land owner of Denmark, and both he and his wife were members of the Lutheran church. To the marriage of Rasmus and Mary Hanson were born three children: Hans, the subject of this sketch; Mary, who married Andrew Hanson, and lives at Orlando, Louisiana, and Anne, who is married and lives on the island of Langeland, in Denmark.

Hans C. Hanson was educated in the public schools of his native land, where he attended classes until fifteen years of age and then he engaged in general farming, until the year 1880, when, being twenty-one years of age, he sailed for America and landed at New York City, on his birthday, and immediately following he went to Rochester, Minnesota, where he worked on a farm for one summer and then took up work for an elevator company, at the same time attending night school under the direction of a friend, who is now a resident of Fergus Falls, Minnesota. After two years Hans C. Hanson engaged in work at the Rochester Iron Works, where he was employed for five years, and then resigned to accept a place on the police force of Rochester, under Chief of Police Capp. In the year 1880 Mr. Hanson came to Otter Tail county, Minnesota, and bought forty acres of land in section

11, of Homestead township, land which was unbroken railroad territory. Hans C. Hanson proceeded to clear and to improve this land, and from time to time increased his holdings by the purchase of additional land until he owned two hundred and forty acres. On this place Hans C. Hanson lived until a decade ago, at the time of leaving he having one of the best improved and most completely equipped farms of the community.

During his residence on his farm, Hans C. Hanson, for two years, was driver of the United States mail on the star route, after which he moved to the town of New York Mills and rented an old hotel, which he managed in connection with his duties as a mail carrier, until one Easter morning when the hotel burned. Mr. Hanson then rented a nearby house, where he continued in the hotel business, and in 1906 he erected a new hotel building which was known as "The Merchant's Hotel," a building which was equipped with twenty rooms, all of which were supplied with hot and cold running water and steam heat. Hans C. Hanson conducted this hotel until the year 1913, when he retired from this business for two years and then, during 1915, he returned to the management of his former place of business.

At the time of the double tracking of the Northern Pacific railway through the locality, Hans C. Hanson was given charge of a special company of men employed at construction work and for one season followed this work and then during the next year he went to the state of Montana, where he was engaged in the work of laying the steel rails between the towns of Armington and of Billings, after which Mr. Hanson returned to New York Mills, being called home on account of illness in his family. At this time Hans C. Hanson became a grain buyer for the Andrews Grain Company, a position in which he is now engaged.

Hans C. Hanson has taken an important part in the public life and in the public affairs of New York Mills. For six years Mr. Hanson served on the town council and during that time it was largely due to his personal efforts that the streets of the town were graded, that cement sidewalks were built, and that the central park of the town was arranged for and largely completed—this without cost to the community—the funds being collected by public subscription and by donation. Hans C. Hanson was the organizer of the local Commercial Club, an organization of thirty-six members, of which Mr. Hanson is now serving as president. During the year 1914 Hans C. Hanson was an active candidate for a seat in the state Legislature, but was defeated at the election.

Hans C. Hanson was married on September 9, 1881, to Charlotte Carlson, who was born at Stockholm, Sweden, the daughter of Carl Carlson and wife, who were natives of Sweden, and of whom the father came to America, his daughter, Charlotte, coming to join her father during the year 1880.

To the marriage of Hans and Charlotte Hanson were born the following children: Carl Oscar, who is a railroad man of Duluth, Minnesota; Adla, who married William Ash and later died of tuberculosis; Alma, who married Seblon Olson and lives at New York Mills; Abby, who is manager and grain buyer for the Farmers' Elevator Company, of Vining, Minnesota; Arthur, who is a chauffeur for the Fiske livery at New York Mills; Justus, a student of the Wadena Business College; Clara, who married Marshall Lloyd, an electrician of Verndale, Minnesota; and Laura, who lives at home. Following the death of his daughter, Adla, Hans C. Hanson adopted his granddaughter, Lura Ash, who now lives with Mr. Hanson as one of the family.

Hans C. Hanson is prominently and broadly affiliated with several fraternal organizations of the community, he being a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows since twenty-two years of age, a lodge in which he has served as vice-grand at Rochester. Mr. Hanson is also a Mason of Perham Lodge No. 159, as well as of the chapter at Wadena. Hans C. Hanson is a member of the Modern Brotherhood of America, and in church affiliation he is a member of the Congregational church, in which congregation he serves as treasurer. In politics he is a Republican.

FELIX NYLUND.

Felix Nylund, a native of Finland, who succeeded his father in the publication of the *Uusi Kotimaa* at the latter's death, in 1892, is a well-known citizen of New York Mills and Otter Tail county, Minnesota.

Mr. Nylund was born on January 4, 1873, in Finland, and is the son of August and Sophia Nylund, both of whom were natives of Finland, the former born in 1835 and the latter in 1845. They were married in Finland and in 1878 he came to America and settled at Calumet, Michigan. Three years later the family came, and they moved to Minneapolis, Minnesota, and in July, 1884, to New York Mills, Otter Tail county, Minnesota. August Nylund had established the *Uusi Kotimaa* in 1882, at Minneapolis, and in 1884 moved the business to New York Mills, where the publication of the paper has since been continued. August Nylund died on December 12, 1892, but his widow is still living, and resides at New York Mills. Felix Nylund, the subject of this sketch, in partnership with his brother, August Ferdinand, continued the publication of the paper alone, under the firm name of Nylund Brothers. August Ferdinand Nylund was born in Finland in March, 1868. The *Uusi Kotimaa* has a circulation of approximately six thousand five hundred. It is a financial success and is ably conducted by its present owner and proprietor.

August and Sophia Nylund were the parents of nine children, of whom

four, Felix, Lydia, Hilma Sophia and Olga, are now living. Felix Nylund attended public school in Finland, at Calumet, Michigan, and Minneapolis, Minnesota. He came to New York Mills, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, with his parents and took up the publishing business in 1892. He has been connected with the business ever since. For three years Mr. Nylund has been a member of the New York Mills council. He has been a member of the school board for nine years and was clerk of the board for five years. Mr. Nylund has forty acres of land inside the village of New York Mills. He owns real estate and the building in which his business is housed. Besides this he owns residence property in New York Mills. He is an enterprising business man and well deserves the success which has attended his efforts since his father's and his brother's deaths. Mr. Nylund is a thorough-going American, thoroughly in sympathy with the institutions and traditions, and loyal to the country of his adoption.

JENS NELSON.

Jens Nelson, a prosperous farmer of Tordenskjold township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, is a native of Sjalland, Denmark, where his birth occurred on January 29, 1870. Mr. Nelson is a son of Nels and Sophia (Nelson) Jensen.

Nels Jensen and wife were born, reared and spent all their lives in Denmark. The former was a laborer and a soldier in the War of 1863-64 against Germany. He is still living at the advanced age of eighty-two years and is in good health. His wife died about 1907. Nels Jensen and wife were the parents of twelve children, ten of whom were daughters and two sons. Nine of these children remained in Denmark. One daughter, Helena, came to America, and after arriving in this country, was married to N. P. Gloier, and they are residents of Brooklyn, New York.

Jens Nelson was educated in the common schools of Denmark, and when he was twenty-one years of age came to America, settling in Tordenskjold township, where he worked for the farmers of the neighborhood for about two years. Afterward Mr. Nelson purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land in section 19, and has lived here ever since. The farm was originally wild land, and had only a small log house on it in the way of improvements. Only about twenty-two acres of the farm had been cleared, but at the present time there is a fine house and a magnificent bank barn with a concrete foundation on the farm. There is also a concrete chicken house, and all of the outbuildings are substantial and convenient for modern farming. The house was erected in 1901 and the barn in 1900. There is a beautiful avenue of oaks leading from the road to the house, and Mr. Nelson has also set out

evergreens and box-elders, adding much to the beauty and attractiveness of the place. He has an orchard of fifty apple trees, and is engaged in mixed farming, in which he has met with a very commendable degree of success.

On August 9, 1892, Jens Nelson was married to Johanna Christina Christensen, a sister of H. C. Christensen and C. H. Christensen, mentioned elsewhere in this volume. Mr. and Mrs. Nelson are the parents of five children, Marie, George, Christine, Lauritz and Herbert.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Nelson and family are members of the Free Lutheran church, in which they take an active and interested part. Mr. Nelson is independent in politics. He is an enterprising farmer, a good neighbor and a good citizen, and enjoys the confidence of many friends and acquaintances.

LEANDER HOLMES.

Of those men who from foreign counties have come to this country, and in the land of their adoption have proved thorough successes regardless of the handicap of life in a strange nation, the name of Leander Holmes, a native of Finland, is one which stands as an example of the result of industry and determination, used with tact and with foresight, in the development of business and industrial life.

Leander Holmes was born in Finland on November 20, 1852, the son of Charles and Elizabeth Holmes, who likewise were born in Finland, and lived in that country during their entire life, where the father was engaged as a farmer. Charles and Elizabeth Holmes were the parents of the following children: Anna Brita, who married Leander Mattson and lives at Duluth, Minnesota; Charles, who lives in Finland, and Leadner, the subject of this sketch.

Leander Holmes was educated in the schools of Finland, and was confirmed in the Lutheran church of that country, after which he learned the carpenter's trade and followed that business as a skilled and expert workman for some years, both in his immediate locality and at the city of Petrograd (St. Petersburg), Russia. In the year 1882 he came to America and was employed as a workman in the lumber camps of the state of Michigan for some years, and then he went to the state of California, where he followed the same business, later going to Park City, Utah, and engaging as a worker in the silver and lead mines of that locality, work in which he continued for three years. In the year 1892 Leander Holmes came to the state of Minnesota and located in Otter Tail county, where he bought eighty acres of land in section 9, of Newton township. Being covered with brush and timber, Leander Holmes proceeded to clear his land and to replace the unsatisfactory

buildings with new structures, together with the adding of land to his holdings until he now has one hundred and twenty acres of land, all well improved and in a good state of cultivation.

During the year 1877 Leander Holmes was married to Gemina Coopar, who was born in Finland, the daughter of Herman Coopar and wife, of that country. To the marriage of Leander and Gemina Holmes were born the following children: Ina Maria, who married Edward Deschaine and lives at Menominee, Michigan; Gusta Leander, who died at Petrograd, when an infant; Axel Ananias, who died in infancy; John Adolph, an employe of the Dower Lumber Company, at New York Mills, Minnesota; Lydia Wilhelmina, who married Arthur Haglund and lives at Hibbing, Minnesota; Hilma Sophia, who lives at home; Fannie Josephine, who died during the year 1910, being seventeen years of age; and Frank William and Winnie Esther, who live at home.

Leander Holmes is one of the men of Otter Tail county and of Newton township who has done much for the progress of the community, being willing at all times to give of his time and effort for the promotion of public and general interests. Unselfish and ambitious for the welfare of the locality he has proved to be a worthy addition to the citizenship of the county.

CHALKLEY M. BUTTON.

Among the strong and influential citizens of Otter Tail county, the review of whose lives is an important part of this book, is Chalkley M. Button, who as a man of keen perception, tireless energy and honesty of purpose, together with the use of intelligence, has exerted a beneficial influence in the community of his residence, as well as having contributed largely to the support of the moral and material advancement of the county.

Chalkley M. Button was born in Hardin county, Iowa, on September 30, 1860, the son of Hiram and Fannie (Bolden) Button, the father being born in Chautauqua county, New York, on February 12, 1833, and the mother being born near the city of Indianapolis, Indiana, on October 20, 1843. Hiram Button was the son of Albert and Mary (Collins) Button, his mother being a Quakeress and his father a well-known citizen of New England, in which part of the country they were married and afterward moved to Chautauqua county, New York, where they lived for some time and then later went, about the year 1855, to Hardin county, Iowa, where he followed his profession and his trades as a lawyer, merchant and as a shoemaker. Hiram Button, father of the subject of this sketch, was one of ten children, of whom two are living.

Fannie Boldon was the daughter of Asher and Emeline (Pitman) Bol-

don, who were natives of the state of Indiana, where they lived until going to the state of Iowa, where Asher Bolden followed his vocation as a farmer during the remainder of his days. Fannie Button was one of ten children, five of whom the now living.

Hiram and Fannie Button each came to the state of Iowa with their parents and there met and married, and then Hiram Button engaged as a general farmer for some years, after which he came to the state of Minnesota and located in Otter Tail county, where he homesteaded a farm of eighty acres of land in section 20, of Newton township, land which he cleared and where he established a home, where he lived until his death, in the year 1902. Fannie Button, the wife of Hiram Button, survives her husband, she being seventy-two years of age. Hiram Button, though a man of quiet and retiring disposition, was faithful to his duty as a citizen and served his community in the offices of assessor, school director and supervisor, as well as being one of the men who organized the Farmers' Alliance, a strong and beneficial organization.

Hiram and Fannie Button were the parents of the following children: Chalkley M., the subject of this sketch; Florence, who died in infancy; Byron A., who lives at Williston, North Dakota; Asher J., who conducts a business college at Moorhead, Minnesota; Jessie M., who married Ole Tranby and lives at Malta, Montana; Oscar, who is a school teacher of Bellingham, Washington; Aivin, who is a school teacher of Aldrich, Minnesota; Lusia, who married Clarence Rowdon and lives at Malta, Montana; Mabel, who married David Henry and lives at Malta, Montana; Myrtle Edna, who died at the age of seven years; and Fannie Luella, who died at the age of three years.

Chalkley M. Button was educated in the common schools of Hardin county, Iowa, and in the schools of Otter Tail county, Minnesota, after which he taught school for some time and then settled in Otter Tail county, Minnesota, where he homesteaded eighty acres of land, across the road from the land that was owned by his father, Hiram Button. Being uncleared land, Chalkley M. Button set out to prepare his land for cultivation, clearing the soil of brush and timber and building a house and other buildings, until he has now one of the most complete farms of the community, where he engages in general farming and in the breeding of cattle and hogs.

On December 19, 1900, Chalkley M. Button was married to Frances Rummins, who was born in the state of Iowa, the daughter of George Rummins and wife. To the marriage of Chalkley and Frances Button has been born two children, Florence and Chalkley Monroe, Jr.

Chalkley M. Button is prominent in the business life of his community, being a shareholder in the local telephone company and being a man, who

because of his experience and training, is one whose counsel and judgment in matters of general business are highly valued.

In politics, Mr. Button is an ardent supporter of the principles of the Prohibition party and is a man whose efforts in the direction of the object of this party has proved of great value.

JOHN GEISNESS.

John Geisness, a resident of this county for twenty years, and owner of two hundred acres of splendid farm land, while not a native of the county, is looked upon as such. From far off Norway he came when a child of nine years, bringing with him the strong traits of character for which his country is noted. Through energy, thrift and perseverance, he has accomplished much and has acquired the right to be called a representative farmer and a man of high character.

Mr. Geisness was born in Trondhjem, Norway, on January 31, 1857, son of Alexander and Annie Boletta (Lund) Geisness, both of whom were natives of Norway, where they were married. Encouraged by reports of the new country, they set sail for America in 1866 and arriving in this country made their first home in St. Croix county, Wisconsin, where they bought a farm the first year. Seven years after he purchased a farm there, Mr. Geisness died, but his wife continued to live there until her death, in 1911, at the age of seventy-seven. She never re-married. Both she and her husband were members of the Lutheran church, and the latter was a Republican in politics. Of the ten children born in their home, four died while very young. The living are: John, the subject of this biography; Bolletta Margaret, who married Magnus Olson and lives two miles east of New Richmond, Wisconsin; Anne, Mrs. Arthur Howell, resides in Duluth, Minnesota; Ellen is the wife of Edward Halvorsen and lives in Duluth; Thomas is a resident of Port Angeles, Washington, and Amanda is Mrs. Louis Wahl, who lives on the old home place in Wisconsin.

Because of the large family and the difficulty of securing an adequate livelihood in the early days, John Geisness, with his brothers and sisters, shared the lot common to the children of pioneer settlers. The school days were short and the work days were long and therefore his education was only such as could be acquired at that time. Spending his early youth on the farm, he later worked in the pine woods for five years previous to several years spent as a farm laborer in Minnesota and Dakota. In 1886 he bought eighty acres in section 31, in the township of Hemming, built a log house and there he lived for four years, during which time he broke the land which was at the date of purchase only a wilderness. He then moved to Vining,

where he purchased a hotel, which he operated for eight years. Selling the Henning township land he bought a farm in Nidaros township, which was adjoining to his village hotel. This he later sold to a man named Froslee, and with the means thus obtained bought two hundred acres in Folden township, one and one-half miles from Vining. There he lived for four years, adding to his property by a tract of eighty acres in section 5, and later a similar amount where he now lives. His residence on this place has been for the last nine years. The improvements consist of a fine new home and barn and such other necessities as the modern farm demands. Mr. Geisness has been successful as a breeder of Duroc-Jersey hogs and has made a specialty of dairy farming, keeping on hand from ten to fifteen cows.

Mr. Geisness was still a young and ambitious pioneer when he married, bringing his bride, Thrina Haugenson, to his crude pioneer cabin home. This was on May 6, 1888. Mrs. Geisness is a native of Norway, having been born there on May 30, 1864. Her parents, Rolland and Christna (Skafnes) Haugenson, were among the first pioneers coming to Folden township, for they arrived in their wagons in 1871. The father died on April 16, 1895, his widow surviving him until September 22, 1914, when she died, at the age of seventy-seven. The children born to them are: Edna Amanda, who married Eric Paulson and lives in Sacred Heart, Minnesota; Reynard Alexander, who died at the age of eighteen; Annie Bolletta, who died at two years of age, and was followed by another daughter, also named Annie Bolletta, who grew up and married Clifford Read, a resident of Seattle, Washington; Cora Nicoline, Ella Juliet, Thea Jennette and Eva Eleonora, all living at home.

The Haugenson family were indeed pioneers, the log house in which they first lived is still standing and is now used as a summer kitchen. When they founded their pioneer home on the northern frontier they were often disturbed by Indians, who by their sudden appearance used to frighten even the horses and cattle. It was in the year 1868 when this family crossed the ocean in a sail boat and by a hard journey overland arrived in St. Croix county, Wisconsin, where they lived for the following three years. When they came to this county, in 1871, traveling in covered wagons drawn by oxen, it required three weeks to make the journey. In order to procure necessary supplies they had to walk to town.

Mr. and Mrs. Geisness are members of the Lutheran United church. Mr. Geisness is a Republican. He has been for two terms president of the Henning and Vining Telephone Company and has been also president of the creamery. Since their long residence here Mr. and Mrs. Geisness have brought to their attractive home many friends and acquaintances. Mrs. Geisness has been a valuable assistant in all that her ambitious husband has

undertaken to do and both are among the most highly respected citizens of this locality, Mr. Geisness being recognized as one of its leading farmers and business men.

HENRY CORDES.

The energy, frugality and business instinct of the German citizen has done much toward the development of the United States. Wherever these people have settled there is evidence of thrift and prosperity. Substantial homes, large barns and well-cultivated fields in the rural districts and well-conducted business interests in the towns and cities. Otter Tail county, Minnesota, is no exception to the rule, for here is found the progressive farmer and the successful business man of German origin.

Henry Cordes, a German by birth, is a man true to the instincts of his race, born in Hanover, Germany, February 12, 1872, he came to this country in early boyhood and has been most successful in his calling.

Henry Cordes was the son of Herman and Charlotte (Winter) Cordes, natives of Hanover, Germany. Herman Cordes was born on April 14, 1842, and was married to Charlotte Winter in 1870, whose birth occurred on May 20, 1844. He received his education in the common schools of his country. He and his wife were active members of the German Lutheran church. Mr. Cordes operated a small farm in Germany, where he and his wife reared a family of ten children. In the year 1885 he decided to cast his fortunes in America and, in company with his wife and children, he landed in New York City on April 5, of that year. He came directly to Minnesota, where he entered one hundred and sixty acres of land in section 21, Leaf Lake township, Otter Tail county. Mr. Cordes is still living on a farm near Henning, Mrs. Cordes having died on July 18, 1909.

The parents of Mr. and Mrs. Herman Cordes never came to America. Henry Cordes, the father of Herman, was an extensive farmer and owned large tracts of land in Germany. Fritz Winter, the father of Mrs. Herman Cordes, was also a tiller of the soil and owned a small farm. The Cordes and Winter families were all members of the German Lutheran church.

Henry Cordes, the subject of this sketch, received most of his education in Germany, having come to the United States when a lad of thirteen, he received but one year of schooling in America. Mr. Cordes was married on October 18, 1900, to Doris Bormann, a native of Hanover, Germany. She was born on January 28, 1878. Mr. and Mrs. Cordes are the parents of eight children: Herman, Hertha, Emma, Bettie, Clara, Walter, Edwin and Norbert.

In 1900 Henry Cordes purchased of his father one hundred and sixty

acres of his present farm. Two years before he purchased an adjoining one hundred and twenty acres completing his present farm of two hundred and eighty acres. Mr. Cordes has added much to the value of his farm by the erection of a large barn, forty by eighty-four feet, with two silos, twelve by thirty-four feet, the work being completed in the year 1909. Two years previous to this he had rebuilt a large and modern house. Later he has added a number of large sheds for his machinery and for the comfort of his many hogs and fine Guernsey cattle. Mr. Cordes owns his threshing outfit, but does only the threshing on his own farm and near neighbors.

Mr. and Mrs. Cordes are active members of the German Lutheran church, in which denomination Mr. Cordes has been a member of the official board for six years. He is at the present time treasurer of the school board, director of the creamery company and he holds the office of vice-president with the telephone companies of Otter Tail and Henning. Mr. Cordes has been very active in all things that tend to the development and improvement of his home and the community in which he lives.

MARTIN K. MARTINSON.

Martin K. Martinson, successful and well-known farmer of Compton township, in Otter Tail county, a man who has taken no small part in the development and advancement of the community and the support of its movements and projects for a greater township and county, was born in Sweden on August 4, 1864, the son of Martin Erickson and Emma (Peterson) Erickson, both of whom were born in Sweden where they now live. Martin Erickson being a farmer of that country. Martin Erickson and his wife are the parents of four children, Margaret, Peter, Martin, and Christine who is deceased.

Martin K. Martinson was educated in the common schools of his native land after which he came to America, in the year 1880, and went to the state of Minnesota, where he located in Otter Tail county, working for some years as a farm helper. In the year 1885 he bought eighty acres of farm land in Compton township, section 28, paying for this land the sum of two thousand five hundred dollars. On this place Martin K. Martinson has since lived, he having improved the farm and cultivated the soil until the place is among the most desirable of the locality.

On December 4, 1902, Martin K. Martinson was married to Carrie Peterson, who was born in Sweden, the daughter of Nels Peterson and wife, who came to America in the year 1893, locating in Otter Tail county, Minnesota, where they bought a farm, which later they sold to Martin K. Martinson.

Martin K. and Carrie Martinson are the parents of one child, Algot.

who was born on October 14, 1903. Mr. Martinson and his wife are well known and highly respected members of the Swedish Lutheran church, a congregation in which they are actively engaged as workers and as supporters of the creeds of this denomination.

In public life Martin K. Martinson has taken no especial part, he preferring to live well and to do his duty as a private citizen of the county and the township.

OLAUS O. HOVLAND.

The history of one who has lived an honorable life and attained high distinction in the community in which he lives should find a prominent place in the biographical records used by succeeding generations. The lives of these men serve as an inspiration to beginners and as a spur to novices in the field of industry. Among those who have resided in Otter Tail county since the very beginning of her agricultural development, is Olaus O. Hovland. As a boy he had the privilege of living on a Minnesota homestead and to those days of stern labor and discipline he owes much of the success which came to him in later life.

Olaus Hovland was born in Winneshiek county, Iowa, on the 16th of September, 1868, and is the son of Ole O. and Anna (Teslo) Hovland. Contrary to the prevailing custom of that locality and period he received more than the average educational training. He attended the local public schools and at the completion of the common school course entered the high school at Fergus Falls, Minnesota. During his attendance in the high school, he absorbed the highest principles of right living and learned to look upon the occupation of farming as a dignified and noble form of labor. His first experience as a farmer was received on his father's homestead where he went to work after leaving high school. For several years following his period of residence on his father's farm, he rented a place whose resources proved to be unusually profitable. In 1912, he bought the place where he now resides. The farm extends over two hundred acres of ground located in sections 26 and 27. He has erected, since his occupation of the place, buildings of modern construction and design. His interests are with general farming and he gives some attention to stock raising. As a Republican he has served as township clerk and as school director and executed the duties of each office with efficiency and force.

On the 21st of March, 1895, the marriage of Olaus Hovland to Minnie Sjolaas, a native of Oscar township, Otter Tail county, took place. She is the daughter of John and Karin (Bjerke) Sjolaas, among the early settlers of that section, who settled there in 1860, having come from Houston county, Minnesota, where they had lived since the early development of

that community. Mr. Sjolaas died on the 27th of March, 1902, and his wife passed away on the 7th of January, 1914. No children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Hovland, but they have found enjoyment and pleasure in the task of rearing the three nieces of Mrs. Hovland; Ida, Luella and Lena Lider.

The work of Olaus Hovland has been such as to win for him more than passing recognition in the county in which he lives. While he has worked mainly for individual advancement, he has never lost sight of the fact that there are movements for public good and has used his best efforts in furthering the cause of honesty and business prosperity in Otter Tail county. He is a man of a versatile nature which has found expression in deeds for the welfare of the public at large.

JOHN B. THOMPSON.

A man of splendid attainments as a lawyer, John B. Thompson has long held local precedence as an exponent of the most loyal and progressive spirit. An influential factor in the promotion of various important business enterprises, he is eminently entitled to more than passing consideration in the biographical records of the county in which he resides. A native son of Otter Tail county and a representative of one of its well-known and honored Norwegian families, Mr. Thompson has well upheld the prestige of the name which he bears and which has been long and prominently identified with the industrial affairs of Battle Lake, this county. His character and services have but further exemplified that fine type of citizenship which has made the Norwegian element one of so much importance and influence in the sturdy citizenship of Minnesota.

John B. Thompson was born on November 4, 1876, in Dane Prairie township, this county, son of Bernt and Luger (Gulseth) Thompson. His parents were born in Selber, Trondhjem, Norway, where they were also married. Upon their arrival in America with a large family early in the seventies, Mr. and Mrs. Thompson settled in Spring Grove, Minnesota. They later came to Otter Tail county and took a homestead claim on one hundred and sixty acres on the west side of Indian lake in Dane Prairie township. In that section Mr. Thompson met the trials of pioneer life in a strange community, but his character was of such force and strength that he was able to turn his means of maintenance in life from a hardship to a pastime. He cleared a place for a log cabin before he entered upon any form of agricultural life, and lived several years in the dwelling, most of which had been erected by himself. Later in life he sold his place to his son, Nels B. Thompson, and moved to the opposite side of the lake, where he died after a few years. Mrs. Thompson spent her last days with her



JOHN B. THOMPSON.

daughter, Mrs. Thomas Larson, the wife of one of the prominent men of this county, a biographical sketch of whom is presented elsewhere in this volume. Mr. Thompson was a Republican and took an active interest in the political affairs of the county, but could never be persuaded to accept a candidacy for a political office. He was deeply devout in all his religious undertakings and with his wife gave loyal support to the Lutheran church of which they were members. Mr. Thompson was not only one of the founders of the church in the community in which he lived, but for a time before its establishment on a permanent basis, gave the use of his house as a meeting place for the congregation.

John B. Thompson received the advantages of a liberal education, availing himself first of the opportunities offered in the course of study at the Wilmer Seminary. After he left Luther College in the year 1896, he attended the University of Minnesota, from which institution he was graduated in the year 1904. Following the plan he had mapped out for his future profession, his course in the university was that of the law and shortly after his graduation he was admitted to the bar and began his practice in Henning, a village in Otter Tail county. During the legislative session of 1905, he was engrossing clerk, and at the expiration of that term of service he returned to Otter Tail county, where he has resided ever since. Mr. Thompson has made rapid and substantial progress in his practice of law and through his ability and well-fortified powers as a counselor, has gained a position entitling him to the full confidence and respect of the community. Aside from his law practice, he has at different times been engaged in business enterprises which have proved most successful. In 1912, in company with T. A. Ranstad, Mr. Thompson made his initial appearance in the field of business enterprise, as agent for a popular line of automobiles. This line of work has not only proved to be profitable, but it has also been of an unusually pleasant nature, and has gained for the subject of this sketch a wide acquaintance throughout the entire county of Otter Tail. Further prestige was later gained by him as director and manager of the Battle Lake Milling Company which he organized. He has also found time and opportunity for work in the field of real estate in which he takes a live interest.

Mr. Thompson has given his entire political support to the cause of the Republican party, and has been honored for the last four years with the position of mayor of Battle Lake. With the numerous cares of professional and business interests on his mind Mr. Thompson still finds time to engage in the recreations of fraternal and social life. He is a member of the Elks lodge at Fergus Falls, and also of the Modern Woodmen of America. He fills the office of secretary of the Commercial Club at Battle Lake, an office

the duties of which have brought him in contact with the best class of citizenship of the community in which he lives and won for him much popularity among its members.

On June 23, 1901, John B. Thompson was united in marriage to Pauline Tjostelson, who was born in Dane Prairie township, the daughter of Peter Tjostelson, one of the pioneer settlers of that locality. Mr. and Mrs. Thompson have no children.

HENRY GEORGE HOFF.

From the land of Norway have come to America many of the desirable and enterprising citizens of foreign countries who take an important and conspicuous part in the life of this country; men who are hardy, persevering, industrious and resourceful, a type of manhood without which America and American life would be denied one of its most acceptable elements. Of this type of manhood and citizenship is Henry George Hoff, and the excellent family of which he is a representative.

Henry George Hoff was born on the farm where he now lives, in Tordenskjold township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, on July 10, 1883, the son of John T. and Marie (Ilshing) Hoff, both of whom were born in Norway, the father at Hedemarken, on August 12, 1849, and the mother at Vadsoe, of northern Norway, on April 18, 1856. John T. Hoff was the son of Tollef and Gunor (Johnson) Hoff, who were born in Norway, where they were married and to whom were born four sons, one, Andrew, came to America in the year 1868, and located in Houston county, Minnesota. Later Tollef and Gunor Hoff, with their three sons, came and located with the son and brother, Andrew, in Houston county, where they lived for one year and then moved to Otter Tail county, Minnesota, where Tollef Hoff and two sons took up a homestead in Tordenskjold township. Later Tollef Hoff sold his homestead and moved to Ashby where he died in January, 1897. Gunor Hoff preceded her husband in death thirteen years, dying in the year 1884.

Marie Ilshing was the daughter of Ole and Guri Ilshing, who were born in Norway and came to America in the year 1865 and settled at Minneapolis, Minnesota, where Ole Ilshing followed his trade as a mason, until the year 1868, when he, with his family, moved to Otter Tail county, and took up a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres, in section 32, where Henry George Hoff, the subject of this sketch, now lives. After some years, during which time Ole Ilshing cleared his land and improved it, he sold his farm to John T. Hoff, following which he moved to St. Olaf township, and purchased a farm which later he sold and then bought another farm, which after a time he sold. Then Ole Ilshing became a merchant at Dalton,

Minnesota, a business in which he continued until four or five years later, when he died, his wife, Guri, having preceded him in death, in the year 1886. Ole and Guri Ilshing were the parents of three children: Marie, mother of the subject of this sketch; Hans, who died as a boy, in Norway; Hansena, who married Halbert Parker and lives at Junction City, Oregon.

John T. and Mary Hoff were married in Otter Tail county, Minnesota, after which they established a home on the claim of John T. in section 7, of Tordenskjold township, a place where they lived for four years and then bought out the place of Ole Ilshing, a farm of two hundred acres in section 32. John T. and Mary Hoff lived on this farm until 1907 when Mr. Hoff sold his place to his son, Henry George, and retired. John T. Hoff was one of the founders of the Lutheran Free church of Minnesota. Mary Hoff lived as the faithful wife of John T. Hoff until her death in the year 1900. To the marriage of John T. and Mary Hoff were born six children: Oscar Theodore, who lives on a farm in Tordenskjold township, Minnesota; Gena Gurina, who married Edward K. Johnson and lives in Tordenskjold township; Alma Helena; Henry George, the subject of this sketch; Manda Georgia, a stenographer, who lives in the state of Idaho, and Borghild Julia.

Henry George Hoff was educated in the schools of district No. 20, of Tordenskjold township, and then he worked on his father's farm for a time after which he attended the agricultural college of the state of Minnesota, during the year 1901-2, and then returned to the farm and aided his father until 1907, when he bought his father's place and engaged himself in the pursuit of general farming and stock raising.

On June 23, 1900, George Henry Hoff was married to Mary Weiby, who was born in Dalton, the daughter of Clement Weiby and wife. To this marriage two children have been born: Jean, who was born on March 13, 1910, and Allen, who was born on May 18, 1913.

NATHAN J. FINN.

Born in Chase county, Kansas, December 4, 1870, Nathan J. Finn, of Oak Valley township, is a prosperous farmer. Mr. Finn is the son of Jasper and Vilette (Packard) Finn, the latter of whom was a native of Illinois. They were married in Iowa and later settled in Kansas in an early day. Mr. Finn's father died in Kansas, November 11, 1901. His widow, however, is still living. Mr. Finn knows very little about his parents, however, as he was reared by his maternal grandparents, Nathan H. and Lucy Packard. They came to Otter Tail county in June, 1875, and settled on section 2, of Oak Valley township. Mr. Finn's maternal grandfather died in 1891 and his grandmother in 1893.

Mr. Finn came to Otter Tail county with his grandparents in 1875

and has since resided in this county. He remained with his grandparents until their deaths and, after this, the farm was sold. He purchased one hundred and twenty acres in sections 23 and 25, of Oak Valley township. In 1912 Mr. Finn built a large barn, thirty-two by forty-four feet. He also has improved the farm in various other ways.

In 1893, after the death of his grandmother, Nathan J. Finn was married to Hattie Smith, who was born in 1873, in Chicago, and who is the daughter of Charles and Sarah (Naylor) Smith. They came to Oak Valley township in 1876 and took a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres in section 26. Mrs. Finn's father died in October, 1913. Her mother is now living in Hewitt, Minnesota. Mr. and Mrs. Finn have two children, Lee, born on July 2, 1910, and Leona, born on March 22, 1913. Mr. and Mrs. Finn also have two adopted children, Naomia, who is seventeen years old, and Ralph, who is fourteen.

Mr. Finn is a member of the township board at the present time and is treasurer of the school board, a position which he has filled creditably for several years. He is well known and well liked in the community where he lives and where the people have had an opportunity to know his character and his worth as a man.

ANDREW ISAKSON.

Andrew Isakson, an enterprising farmer of Inman township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, was born in Sweden on December 16, 1872, the son of Isaac and Betsey Johnson.

Mr. Isakson's parents were both natives of Sweden. They immigrated to America and settled at Henning, Otter Tail county, in 1892. Mr. Isakson's father died in Henning in 1896 at the age of fifty-six years and his mother in 1911 at the age of seventy-eight. They were the parents of six children, John, Christine (who lives in Sweden), Berg, Nels (deceased), Andrew and Olaf.

Andrew Isakson was educated in Sweden and, in 1892, came to America and settled at Henning, purchasing forty acres in section 17, of Henning township. Later Mr. Isakson sold this farm and in 1900 purchased eighty acres in section 12, of Inman township. He has cleared his farm and erected good buildings on it. Mr. Isakson is not only a good farmer and stock man, but he is a carpenter by trade and has worked at this trade almost continuously during the past two years. Nevertheless, Mr. Isakson has kept a very close oversight on his farm and has supervised the work on the farm.

In 1909 Andrew Isakson was married to Sadie Person, who was born in 1889 in Sweden and who is the daughter of Olaf and Ellen Person, of

Leaf Lake township. Mr. and Mrs. Isakson have two sons, Edwin, born on August 29, 1909, and Melvin, born on July 22, 1913.

Mr. Isakson is now serving his second term as supervisor of Inman township. Mr. and Mrs. Isakson are members of the Swedish Lutheran church. They are not only prominent in religious affairs but likewise prominent in civic affairs of this township. They have a host of friends in the neighborhood where they live.

JOHN S. TORGENSEN.

Among the pioneer citizens of Tordenskjold township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, and among its successful farmers and business men, is John S. Torgersen, who was born near Talvake, in Sopnes, Norway, September 12, 1849. Mr. Torgersen is the son of Michael and Kari (Thompson) Torgersen.

Michael Torgersen was born at Koroaas, Norway, and his wife in Tapluft, near Talvake, Norway, the former in 1815 and the latter about 1825. They were married in Norway and lived near Sopnes, where, for twenty-five years, Michael Torgersen taught school. After the death of his wife, in April, 1866, Michael Torgersen came to America with his family. The voyage to America was made on a steamship and on their arrival in America, the family spent on winter in Winneshiek county, Iowa. After moving to St. Paul, Minnesota, Michael Torgersen left three daughters in that city, and, with three sons and two daughters, came to Otter Tail county. The journey from St. Paul to St. Cloud was made by rail and from St. Cloud to Otter Tail county by wagon. Upon arriving in Otter Tail county, Mr. Torgersen homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of land in Tordenskjold township on the west shores of Stalker lake. A cabin built on the shore of the lake was destroyed by fire in 1868. For some time Mr. Torgersen had no horses and only two cows. Subsequently, he built another log house on a hill just north of the first and there lived until late in life, when he built a little house near the home of his son, Jens. He died there in 1898. After coming to Otter Tail county, he had married Ellen Haldorson. He also taught school here for some years and, for some time, sang in the choir of his church. He was a prominent member of the Synod Lutheran church. Of his twelve children, four died early in life in Norway, Salvine married Robert Karsman, and, having returned to Sweden, now lives in Stockholm; Magdalena married Thomas Dwyer and died in Minneapolis; John S. is the subject of this sketch; Lena married Andrew Burg and lives in Grand Island, Nebraska; Dora is the widow of Knut Foss and lives in Butte, Montana; Jens is mentioned elsewhere in this volume; Bert lives at Tempole.

North Dakota, where he is a farmer; Bolletta married Sam Huseby and lives in Fergus Falls.

John S. Torgersen was educated in the public schools of Norway and spent about one month in the schools of America, after which he engaged in farming. In 1871 Mr. Torgersen homesteaded one hundred and forty-nine acres in Tordenskjold township, adjoining his father's farm. Here he erected a shanty and began clearing the land. After a time, he bought forty acres from the railroad just north of his first farm. He now has a good modern house, barn and other outbuildings, all of which are kept in a splendid state of repair. Mr. Torgersen is a general farmer and stockman and is a stockholder in the local telephone company and in the Dalton elevator.

In 1874 John S. Torgersen was married to Johanna Nelson, a native of Norway and the daughter of Nels Langrjovold, who died in his native land. Nine children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. John S. Torgersen. Kari, who married Olaf Tue and lives in Carlton county, Minnesota; Annie, who married Spencer Folkedal and lives in Dalton; Martin, who lives in Moose Jaw, Canada; Emma, who died in infancy; Nels, John and Christine, who live at home; Emma, who married Andrew Utne and lives in Dane Prairie township, and Olga, who married Richard Sjoldal and lives in Montana.

Mr. Torgersen is a Republican in politics and both he and his wife are members of the Free Lutheran church.

JOHN DOLL.

John Doll, farmer and widely known citizen of Rush Lake township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, was born in Mercer county, Ohio, on May 26, 1830, the son of Anton and Mary Ann (Harter) Doll, both of whom were natives of Baden, Germany, the former born in 1810, the latter in 1819. Anton Doll was the son of Joseph Doll and wife, Joseph Doll, after the death of his wife, in Germany, coming to America in 1830, and settling in Perry county, Ohio, where he lived for five years and then moved to Mercer county, where he died in 1838. Joseph Doll and wife were the parents of the following children; Anton, father of the subject of this sketch, John, Wentler, Francis and Mary Ann. Anton Doll received his education in Germany and then came to America, with his father, in 1830, and located in Ohio, where he lived until 1867, and then moved to Otter Tail county, Minnesota, buying four hundred and seventy acres of land in Rush Lake township, a place which he cultivated and improved and made his home until his death in 1881. Mary Ann, the wife of Anton Doll, died on the home place, in the year 1912, aged ninety-three years. Anton and Mary

Ann Doll were the parents of five children, John, the subject of this sketch, Joseph A., Anton, Mary Magdalena and Thresa (deceased).

John Doll was educated in the public schools of Mercer county, Ohio, after which, in 1866, he moved to Rush Lake township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, where he homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of land in section 12. Later, Mr. Doll added to his original farm until he is now the owner of five hundred and forty acres of well improved and highly cultivated land, where he lived as an active farmer until 1890, when he retired.

On January 30, 1866, John Doll was married, in Mercer county, Ohio, to Catherine Weis, who was born in Mercer county, on March 31, 1841, the daughter of Joachim and Barbara (Studer) Weis, natives of Baden, Germany. John and Katherine Doll are active members of St. Lawrence church, of Otto township.

Joachim Weis was the son of John and Mary Ann (Algeier) Weis, who came to Ohio, from their home in Germany, during the year 1823, and located in Mercer county, where John Weis died in 1867, his wife, Mary Ann, having died in 1868. Barbara Weis was the daughter of Joseph and Mary Ann Studer, who after a short residence in Columbus, Ohio, following their arrival in America, moved to Mercer county, where Joseph Studer died about 1860, his wife surviving him until some years later.

JACOB JUNG.

Jacob Jung, well-known farmer of Rush Lake township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, was born in Sheboygan county, Wisconsin, on March 27, 1840, the son of John and Katherine (Silbernagel) Jung, the former born in Germany in 1826, and the latter in the same country in 1824. John Jung came to America in 1847, with his parents, John Jung, Sr., and wife, and located in Sheboygan county, Wisconsin, where John Jung, Sr., died in 1851; his wife died in 1847. Katherine Silbernagel came to America and located at Racine, Wisconsin, where she was married to John Jung, Jr., after which they moved to Sheboygan county, and in 1881 came to Otter Tail county, Minnesota. After living in Perham, Minnesota, until 1899, John Jung moved to Macon, Georgia, where he lived until his death in January, 1902, he being survived by his wife, who died on March 25, 1915. John and Katherine Jung were the parents of the following children, Jacob, John, Peter, Christ, Richard, Blandina and Anna Marie, all of whom are now living.

Jacob Jung was educated in the public schools of Sheboygan, Wisconsin, after which he went to Minneapolis, Minnesota, for a short time and then to Brainard, Minnesota, where he lived until February, 1873, and then returned to Minneapolis. In November, 1873, Jacob Jung went to Wisconsin.

sin, where he lived two years and then he came to his farm in Rush Lake township, a place which he improved extensively and where he is now engaged in general farming and in the dairy business. The farm of Jacob Jung is known as "Rush Lake Dairy Farm."

On November 16, 1876, Jacob Jung was married to Mary Ottilla Fuchs, who was born in Stearns county, Minnesota, the daughter of Balthasar and Ottillia (Esser) Fuchs, who came from the state of Ohio to Stearns county. Balthasar Fuchs died on December 22, 1914, in Saskatchewan, Canada; and his wife had preceded her husband in death by twenty-one years. To the marriage of Jacob and Mary Jung have been born the following children: John Arthur, who married Elizabeth Sheideker and to whom have been born four children, Robert, Louisa, Edward and Albert; Annie K., who married John L. Doll, of Rush Lake township, and to whom have been born eight children, Barbara, Raymond, Louisa, Alois, Arthur, Vincent, Robert and Christ. Jacob Jung and all of his family are active members of St. Joseph's church.

Jacob Jung has served his community in various public offices, among which are the offices of township clerk, assessor, supervisor and treasurer. For ten years Mr. Jung has been chairman of the board of supervisors. In business life Jacob Jung is no less prominently affiliated, he being president of the Farmer's Mutual Insurance Company, an office which he has occupied for fifteen years. Mr. Jung is president of the Farmer's Creamery Company, of Perham, and is a member of the Farmer's Shipping Association, an organization which he assisted in organizing. Jacob Jung is president of the Perham Rural Telephone Company, and has been a member of the school board for many years, having served for six years as clerk of the board and for five years as treasurer.

THORVALD L. JORUD.

Born in Norway, May 12, 1857, Thorvald L. Jorud, an enterprising farmer of Henning township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, is the son of Lars and Chestena Jorud, who were natives of Norway. They came to Fillmore county, Minnesota, in 1860 and the next year moved to Otter Tail county, Minnesota, settling in Eagle Lake township, where they homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of land. There Mr. Jorud's father died in 1906, at the age of eighty-four years. His mother died in 1910, also at the age of eighty-four. They were the parents of the following children: Amelia, Thorvald L., Hans, Thea, Thea and Ole. The first child named Thea is deceased.

Thorvald L. Jorud was educated in the public schools of his native land. In 1860, when his parents came to America, he accompanied them

to this country and settled with them in Fillmore county, Minnesota. When Mr. Jorud was old enough, he took up farming on the old homestead. In 1878 he took a homestead in Henning township. Having begun with one hundred and sixty acres of land, he has added to this original tract until he now owns four hundred acres in Henning township. He has made general farming and stock raising his business since coming to this county and has erected substantial buildings on his farm.

In January, 1891, Thorvald L. Jorud was married to Paulina Peterson, who was born in Norway, in 1873, the daughter of Peter and Chestena Peterson, who now live in South Dakota. Mrs. Jorud's father is eighty-five years old and her mother about the same age. By his marriage to Paulina Peterson, Thorvald L. Jorud is the father of seven children. Charles, Marlow, Palmer, Cornelius, Edgar, Joseph and Chester. These children all live at home with their parents.

Mr. and Mrs. Jorud and family are members of the United Lutheran church. Mr. Jorud has devoted himself almost exclusively to farming. He has never taken any considerable interest in politics, but is well known in the township and popular in the neighborhood where he resides.

GUSTAV HANSON.

Born in Norway, May 12, 1861, Gustav Hanson is a son of Hans and Sophia Hanson, both of whom were also natives of the same country, and who, in 1869, emigrated to Dane county, Wisconsin, and took a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres of land. There Mr. Hanson's father died in 1874, at the age of forty-three years. His mother died in 1875. Hans Hanson and wife were the parents of four children, of whom Martha, the youngest, is deceased. The living children are Gustav, Haldan and Hannah.

Gustav Hanson, who is a prosperous farmer of Gerard township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, was educated in the schools of Dane county, Wisconsin. He took up farming early in life, and after working as a farmer and thresherman for a number of years, came to Minnesota in 1888. Here he rented land in Yellow Medicine county, Minnesota. Subsequently he purchased eighty acres of land, but in 1903 sold that farm and purchased two hundred and sixty-three acres in section 4, of Gerard township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota. A lake near Mr. Hanson's farm is now known as Hanson's lake. Mr. Hanson has sold eighty acres of this farm to his son, Henry. He is now well known as a breeder of Shorthorn cattle and Chester White hogs. In 1914 Mr. Hanson built a new and attractive residence, and all of his farm buildings are kept painted and in the best possible state of repair. Eighty acres of the farm have been cleared and are under culti-

vation. Mr. Hanson's farm is the old McIntyre homestead, and is one of the best in the township.

On November 29, 1888, Gustav Hanson was married in Yellow Medicine county, Minnesota, to Andrine Obrekke, who was born in Norway in 1868. Mr. and Mrs. Hanson are the parents of the eight children, Henry, Hannah, John, Julius, George, Anton, Julia and Gusta, all of whom are living with the exception of John.

Mr. Hanson has always been prominent in local politics. He has served as treasurer of the township for eight years, and as clerk of the school board for nine years, discharging well the duties of both offices. Mr. Hanson is well known and highly respected throughout the township where he lives.

J. HOWARD WALBRIDGE.

J. Howard Walbridge, a successful farmer of Oak Valley township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, was born in Buffalo county, Wisconsin, October 12, 1857, and is the son of Julius and Lucretia (Bull) Walbridge. Mr. Walbridge's father was a native of Vermont, where he was born in 1817, and his mother also a native of Vermont, born there in 1832.

In an early day, the Walbridge family immigrated to St. Lawrence county, New York, and after their marriage there, Julia and Lucretia (Bull) Walbridge immigrated to Wisconsin in 1854. Still later they moved to Dakota county, Minnesota, and, for a number of years, kept a hotel at Lewiston. In 1882 Mr. and Mrs. Julia Walbridge moved to Fergus Falls, Minnesota, where Mr. Walbridge died in September, 1900. His widow is still living and is now eighty-three years old. They were the parents of seven children, Elhanan, J. Howard, Alberta (deceased), Judson, Irene, Lillian and Lionel.

Mr. Walbridge's paternal grandfather, Frank Walbridge, was a native of Vermont, who moved to St. Lawrence county, New York, and in 1854 located in the state of Wisconsin, where he died. His wife, who before her marriage was Temperence Austin, was also a native of Vermont and she died at St. Cloud, Minnesota, at the age of ninety-two years.

Mr. Walbridge's father, the late Julius Walbridge, was a farmer by occupation and a hotel keeper. For a number of years he had a hotel on Bismarck avenue, Fergus Falls, Minnesota.

J. Howard Walbridge was reared on a farm and educated in the public schools. In 1882 he settled in Oak Valley township, purchasing eighty acres of land in section 11, where he now lives. Since that time he has added one hundred and twenty acres in sections 2 and 10, and now owns altogether two hundred acres. Mr. Walbridge is a farmer and stockman

and has made many improvements upon his farm. His buildings are all in good condition and are well painted.

On October 16, 1879, J. Howard Walbridge was married to Margaretta Branch, who was born on December 29, 1859, in Pennsylvania, and who is the daughter of Adam and Margaretta (May) Branch, both of whom were natives of Germany. They immigrated to America and settled first near Phillipsburg, Pennsylvania. In 1862 or 1863, they moved to Dakota county, Minnesota, and located on a farm near Hastings. About 1877 they came to Oak Valley township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, where they subsequently acquired three hundred and twenty acres of land. Mrs. Walbridge's father died in 1885 and her mother in 1886. There were nine children in the family, of whom five, Catherine, Lewis, Adam, Charles and Benjamin, are deceased. The living children are, George, Margaretta, Lena and Frank.

Mr. and Mrs. J. Howard have been the parents of seven children, Lloyd, Chester, Llewellyn, Zi, Mable and Lelah, all of whom are living, and Raymond, who died in infancy.

In politics, Mr. Walbridge is identified with the Democratic party. He served three years on the township board and also served as assessor for many years. For twenty years he was treasurer of his school district and still holds this position. He is an enterprising farmer, a successful business man and popular among the people of Oak Valley township.

EDWARD PARKS.

One of the well-known farmers of Inman township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, who owns two hundred acres of land free of all encumbrances, and who is a progressive, up-to-date farmer, is Edward Parks, who was born on Big Creek, five miles west of Sparta, in Monroe county, Wisconsin, July 2, 1868.

Mr. Parks is a son of George and Harriet (Hodgskins) Parks, both of whom were natives of New York state. In pioneer times the family emigrated from New York and settled in Wisconsin, and on June 7, 1871, removed from the latter state to Parkers Prairie, Minnesota, homesteading one hundred and sixty acres of land. It was there that George Parks died in November, 1900, at the age of sixty-five years. His widow is still living and is now seventy-two years old.

Edward Parks was reared on the farm and received his education in the public schools of Parkers Prairie. When old enough he engaged in farming for himself, in which he has been very successful, now owning two hundred acres of splendid farming land in Inman township. In 1883 he purchased eighty acres in section 16, and has gradually added to this original purchase from time to time until he now has the acreage above referred to.

Mr. Parks has made many material and substantial improvements upon his farm, and keeps his farm buildings and fences in a good state of repair. Besides general farming, he is also engaged in the breeding of purebred stock, and has specialized in Shorthorn cattle and Percheron horses. He is an expert bee-keeper, and ordinarily keeps from thirty to forty hives of bees, and makes and sells quantities of bees-wax. He also raises sugar cane and engages in the manufacture of sorghum during the season. Mr. Parks is a stockholder in the Henning Shipping Association, and also in the Henning Creamery Company. He is a well-known sportsman of the county, and is an extensive breeder of fox hounds, and of Single Comb White Leghorn chickens.

In 1884, Edward Parks was married to Fannie Mason, who was born at Sparta, Wisconsin, April 17, 1866, and who is a daughter of William Talmage and Harriet Elizabeth (Sessuns) Mason. Mrs. Parks' parents emigrated from Wisconsin to Otter Tail county, Minnesota, in 1871, and settled at Parkers Prairie. William T. Mason died in North Dakota, in 1900, at the age of seventy-two years, while Harriet Elizabeth Mason died in Washington, September 13, 1912, at the age of eighty-four years. Mr. and Mrs. Edward Parks are the parents of four children, Cleon, Glen, Eva and Dee, all of whom are living.

For more than twenty-five years Edward Parks has been treasurer of Inman township, and is now serving in this position. He is also treasurer of the school board, and has served as supervisor of Inman township. Mr. Parks' father, who began with one hundred and sixty acres of land, was the owner of two hundred acres at the time of his death. Other members of this family have been equally successful, and all are rated among the substantial and influential citizens of this county.

CHARLES PEPPLING.

One of the well-to-do farmers of Henning township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, who has made a large success of his chosen vocation because he has followed modern methods in farming, is Charles Peppling, a native of Sweden, where he was born on October 13, 1862.

Mr. Peppling is the son of Andrew and Charlotte (Rask) Peppling, both of whom were natives of Sweden. In 1883 they came to America and settled in Otter Tail county, where they lived with their son, Charles, until their deaths. Mr. Peppling's father died in July, 1913, at the age of eighty-two, and his mother in 1908, at the age of seventy-three. They were the parents of seven children, of whom four are deceased. The names of the children, in the order of their births, are: Alfred, deceased; Charles, Hulda,

Mary, deceased; Augusta, who died at the age of seven; Anna, and Selma, deceased.

Charles Peppling was educated in the public schools of his native land and in 1881 came to Fergus Falls, Minnesota. Mr. Peppling walked to Pelican Rapids, Otter Tail county, and, for some time, worked on neighboring farms. In 1887 he moved to Henning township and purchased one hundred and twenty acres of school land. Three years later he purchased one hundred and sixty acres in section 25, where he now lives. All of the buildings which are now standing upon this farm Mr. Peppling erected. He built a good residence in 1908. Altogether he now owns four hundred and forty acres of land in Henning township and twenty acres of timber in Inman township. He is a general farmer and stockman.

Mr. Peppling has been prominent as a citizen for many years. He served as supervisor for fifteen years. He is a stockholder in the Henning Farmers' Shipping Association and in the Henning Creamery Association. He is also a stockholder in the farmers elevator at Henning. Mr. Peppling is a member of the Swedish Baptist church, of Henning. He is unmarried.

WILLIAM J. HENDERSON.

Born in Canada, April 13, 1864, William J. Henderson, a prosperous farmer of Inman township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, is the son of Frank and Sarah (McKnight) Henderson. Mr. Henderson's father was a native of Ireland and his mother of New York state, born at Albany. The former came to Canada from Ireland and after his marriage in Canada, moved to Blue Earth, Minnesota, in 1865, purchasing one hundred and sixty acres of land. In 1879 he came to Otter Tail county and settled in Elmo township, taking a homestead in section 30. He died on this old homestead farm in 1904, at the age of sixty-five. His wife died about 1900, at the age of fifty-five. They were the parents of eight children, all of whom are living, Jennie, William, Marietta and Marion (twins), Frank, Sarah, Anna and David.

William J. Henderson was reared on a farm in Blue Earth county, Minnesota. He was educated in the public schools of that county and accompanied his parents in 1879 to Otter Tail county, where he has since been engaged in farming. In 1896 Mr. Henderson purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land in section 21, of Inman township. He is a general farmer and stockman and has been very successful.

In 1891 William J. Henderson was married to Mrs. Elizabeth Mason, who was born in Wisconsin and who is the daughter of George and Harriet (Hodgson) Park. They came to Parkers Prairie, Minnesota, June 7, 1871. Mrs. Henderson's father died in 1900, but her mother is still living, at the

age of seventy-two years. Mr. and Mrs. William J. Henderson have nine children, all of whom are living, Alice, Frank, William, John, Sidney, Orlando, Reuben, Nellie and Guy.

Mr. Henderson has served as township clerk of Inman township for nineteen years. He was also clerk of the school board for twenty years. The Hendersons are members of the Methodist church.

LARS OLSON TOMMERAAS.

The late Lars Olson Tommerraas, who was a prominent farmer and well-known educator of Trondhjem township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, was born in Norway, in the year 1826, and following his education in the public schools of his native country, became a school teacher, a profession which he pursued until 1877, when, having married, Lars Olson Tommerraas came to America and located in Otter Tail county, Minnesota. For one year after reaching Otter Tail county, Lars Olson Tommerraas continued in his work as a school teacher and then preferring farm life, he bought one hundred and sixty acres of land in section 30, Trondhjem township, a place to which he added eighty acres, subsequently, and then followed general agricultural pursuits until his death, in 1906.

During the year 1876 Lars Olson Tommerraas was married to Julia Gunderson, who was born in Norway on July 31, 1849, the daughter of well-known people of her native locality. Lars Olson and Julia Tommerraas were the parents of the following children: Olaf, who married Matilda Rudh and now lives on the home farm with six children, Cyrus, Bernice, Bertram, Evelyn, Edna and Curtis; Gilbert and Gustov, who are deceased; Christina, who married Harry Ranger, to whom have been born four children, Elizabeth, Moïs, Orpha and Joyce; Lewis, cashier of the Kent, Minnesota, bank, who married Violet Ranger, and to whom has been born one child, Lois; Gilbert, who is a school teacher; Oscar and Enevold, who are twins, the former who was married to Mertice Stearns, of Detroit, Minnesota, in 1812, is assistant cashier of the Kent, Minnesota, bank, and the latter proprietor of a pool room and candy store at McVille, North Dakota; Alma, who is a school teacher; Effie was married in 1915 to Benjamin A. Helland, assistant cashier of the bank at Perley, Minnesota; Minnie, who is a school teacher.

Lars Olson Tommerraas was a man who lived a most active and useful life, he, while a resident of his native country, having served his community not only as a notably efficient teacher in the public schools of that country, but he was a leader in public and official circles of his locality, serving in various offices and as a member of organizations and societies having for their object the promotion of the general welfare. As a pioneer school

teacher in Otter Tail county, Minnesota, Lars Olson Tommeraas performed inestimable service to his locality and the county in general, giving of his time and experience for the upbuilding of the public school system and the training of the children of his township and the vicinity. In the death of Lars Olson Tommeraas, Trondhjem township and Otter Tail county lost one of its most valued citizens.

OLE LYKSETT.

The list of Otter Tail county agriculturists would be incomplete were the name of Ole Lyksett omitted from these pages. He has set an example of steadfast integrity, and stands today as one of the representative men in his line, holding the confidence of his community, and giving honest measure in return for all he receives.

Ole Lyksett, farmer, Elizabeth township, was born on February 28, 1861, in Wisconsin, and received his education at the public schools of that state. After his marriage he located first in Waseca county, where he bought one hundred and sixty acres and followed farming until two years ago, when he moved to this township. In religion, Mr. Lyksett belongs to the Lutheran church, in the work of which he has always taken an active part and has been a Sunday school teacher for many years. Politically, he is a stanch Democrat, and has held some of the township offices, among them being that of school board trustee, and is the present school treasurer. He came to this county because of the encouraging prospects, and has done well in a financial way.

Ole Lyksett, father of the subject of this sketch, was born in Norway, and was united in marriage with Aline Erikson, also a native of that country. After their marriage they came to America about 1850, and settled in Wisconsin, where he followed farming on a tract of eighty acres, located near Kewaunee, where Mr. Lyksett died in May, 1881. This union was blest with four children: Lars, deceased; Lars, Edward, deceased, and Ole. After the death of her husband, Mrs. Lyksett was married to Ole Christenson, by whom she had three children: Charles, Mattie and Lena Christenson. Mrs. Christenson died in 1912. The parents of Ole Lyksett were members of the Norwegian Lutheran church, and his stepfather was a soldier in the Civil War, serving about six months during the latter part.

Ole Lyksett was united in marriage, November 17, 1890, with Sarah Vieg, daughter of Syvert Vieg. She was born in Norway and came with her parents to America. To Mr. and Mrs. Lyksett have been born six children: Helen, Sylvan, Harold, Eva, Alice and Melvin. Helen is the only married one of this family of children. She became the wife of Walter Lloyd, and has one child. They reside at Argyle, Minnesota.

Syvert Vieg, father of Mrs. Ole Lyksett, was born in Norway and came to the United States, where he spent the remainder of his life.

Mr. Lyksett bears a reputation in his community that would do credit to any man of honest principles. He is quiet and unassuming in manner, and among those who know him he is held in high esteem.

MARTIN BENSON.

Martin Benson, a well-known citizen of Fergus Falls, Minnesota, and one of the leading business men of this city, who is engaged in the furniture and undertaking business, has achieved success largely because of his strict attention to business, of which he is a profound student.

Mr. Benson is a native of Sweden, where he was born on June 9, 1860. He is the son of John and Olive (Okkerholm) Benson, the former of whom was a painter by trade and the latter passed the greater part of her life in her native land. Mr. Benson's uncle was a captain in the Swedish army and, after the death of John Benson, he assumed the place of a parent to young Martin, who at the time was but seven years old. The mother's family has furnished many professional men to her native land.

In 1878 Martin Benson came to America, being but eighteen years old at the time. He came direct to Otter Tail county, obtaining his first employment in Pelican Rapids with O. E. Blyberg, with whom he remained for six or seven months. Realizing the advantage of an education, he attended the public schools and acquired a good education. He afterward learned the trade of a flour-miller, which occupation he followed for twenty-two years, during which time he was head miller of several different mills. In 1888, being then at Red Lake Falls, he was called by Joe Featherstone, who knew his ability as a miller, to come to Fergus Falls to take charge of the old Red River mill, which Mr. Featherstone had rented. Mr. Benson came to Fergus Falls, remodeled the mill and conducted it for one year, when, being offered the position of head miller of the new Otter Tail mill, which was just completed, he accepted and continued as its head miller for seven years.

In May, 1898, Mr. Benson desired to engage in the furniture and undertaking business, confident that there was an opening for such business, and his wonderful success has proved the wisdom of the course he pursued. He opened a store in a small way on the north side of Lincoln avenue and his business increased so rapidly that six months later he secured a larger building in the Allen and Cuttler block on Lincoln avenue west. In 1903, he purchased a block on the corner of Lincoln and Court street, where he is at present engaged in the same line of business, which has grown to such an extent that he occupies the entire block from the main street back to the alley, three stories high. He carries one of the largest and best selected



MARTIN BENSON

stocks of furniture, carpets, rugs, draperies, linoleums and undertaking supplies anywhere in the Northwest. Mr. Benson is one of the first state licensed embalmers in the Northwest and is considered one of the foremost and most progressive funeral directors in the state.

In 1914, Mr. Benson added to his already large establishment a new and up-to-date funeral chapel with a seating capacity of at least one hundred and fifty, which is absolutely free to patrons wishing to make use of it for funeral occasions. In connection with the chapel, the upper floor is the casket show room, where such goods can be found from the cheapest to the best. In another department in the same building is contained the embalming room, dressing room, etc., equipped with all modern improvements and appliances. The building is steam-heated, electric-lighted, has water and sewer connections and no expense has been spared in making this establishment the best of its kind in the Northwest.

Mr. Benson has held many important offices in the Minnesota State Funeral Directors Association and has had the honor to attend a great many national conventions as state delegate, which has been both instructive and enjoyable.

Always interested in the welfare and prosperity of the city of Fergus Falls, Mr. Benson has contributed both time and money to that end and was once a member of the city council. Mr. Benson is also interested in many different enterprises in the city and is one of the directors in the new Farmers and Merchants State Bank and is in possession of a good deal of property, otherwise including a handsome new home just completed.

Mr. Benson is an active member in the Masonic fraternity, the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, the Daughters of Rebekah, the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, the Royal Arcanum, the Modern Woodmen, the Ancient Order of United Workmen, and the Chippewa Club.

Mr. Benson was married at Pelican Rapids, Minnesota, in 1882, to Julia Moe, a native of Norway, who came to America with her mother, sisters and brothers when she was but seven years old, her father having died in Norway. They were among the early settlers of Otter Tail county. Mr. and Mrs. Benson are the parents of four children, as follow: Otto D., Mary A., Bennie A. and Annie R. Of these children, Otto married Effie Carsten and has one son, Donald. Annie married Robert Vedeen, of Detroit, Minnesota, and has one son, Ottis. Otto and Bennie are employed in their father's establishment. Mary is a school teacher. All of the children are graduates of the Fergus Falls high school.

Mr. and Mrs. Benson and family are devoted members of the Norwegian Lutheran Synodical church, to which they have belonged for thirty

years and where their children have all been baptized and confirmed. They are all enjoying high esteem and respect in the church as well as in the entire community.

OLE ANDREW OLSEN BONLIE.

Among the well-known and successful men of Otter Tail county is Ole Andrew Olsen Bonlie, who is a native of Norway, having been born in that country on April 19, 1850, being the son of Hansold and Kare Olsen, both of whom were born in Norway. The Olsens came to the United States in 1856, at first locating at Black Earth, Dane county, Wisconsin. In 1858 they removed to Iowa county, where they remained for four years, after which they took up their residence in McLeod county, Minnesota, in 1862, and in 1877 they moved to Clay county, this state, where the mother died in 1888; the father died at Fargo, North Dakota, in 1901.

Ole Andrew Olsen Bonlie was educated in the common schools of Dane county, Wisconsin, and in the schools of Iowa county. After completing his education, he became a carpenter and engineer, which occupations he followed for many years. Mr. Bonlie also devoted much of his time to farming, in which he has been successful. His first farm was a homestead, which he entered in 1877, in Clay county, Minnesota. He was located in Morehead at this time and worked at his trades. Although not active in the cultivation of his farm, he was always interested in agriculture.

After a residence of some years in Morehead, Mr. Bonlie sold his farm near there and in 1889 came to Otter Tail county, where he purchased eighty acres of land in section 9, Candor township. By close application and diligent work he has improved the tract until today he has one of the best developed farms in the township, with good buildings and fences. Mr. Bonlie practices general farming and devotes much of his time to the raising of much stock, both of which receives his most careful attention.

Ole A. O. Bonlie was married, in 1873, to Bertha Frederickson, who was born in Norway, July 25, 1853, where she grew to womanhood and received her education. Her mother, Ellen Frederickson, died the same year that Mrs. Bonlie was born, and her father, Frederick Frederickson, died when she was a mere child. She remained in her native country until she was nineteen years of age, at which time she came to America and settled in Minnesota.

Mr. and Mrs. Bonlie are the parents of the following children: Carolina, Anton Herman, Edward, Hattie, Anton, Charles, Fred, Anna and Bertha, all of whom are alive with the exception of Carolina, Anton Herman and Charles.

JOHN NORDGAARD.

A well-known and prosperous farmer of Trondhjem township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, is John Nordgaard, who was born in Norway, March 28, 1864, he being the son of Staius and Mana Nordgaard, who were natives of Norway. Staius Nordgaard came to America in 1867, and settled in Fillmore county, Minnesota, where he lived for four years and then moved to Otter Tail county and homesteaded eighty acres of land in Trondhjem township, section 9, a place to which the elder Nordgaard added eighty acres, at a later time, and where he now lives in retirement. Mana, the wife of Staius Nordgaard, died in 1876. Staius and Mana Nordgaard were the parents of two children, Staal and John.

Following his education in the schools of Fillmore and Otter Tail counties, Minnesota, John Nordgaard became a farmer, taking possession of the home farm, a place to which Mr. Nordgaard added eighty acres and where he now lives and cultivated his choice farm of two hundred and forty acres. In addition to his general farming, John Nordgaard engages in the raising of considerable good grade live stock.

During the year 1890 John Nordgaard was married to Dena Rynes, a native of Otter Tail county, and the daughter of Bernt and Ellena Rynes, who came from Norway to America in 1870, and located in Otter Tail county, where Bernt Rynes now lives a retired life. John and Dena Nordgaard are the parents of the following children: Ella and Mabel (twins), Selmer, Elwena and Bertha. In the year 1908 Dena, the wife of John Nordgaard, died, after which, in the year 1912, Mr. Nordgaard was married, secondly, to Mary Watternoe, of Trondhjem township. To this marriage no children have been born.

WILLIAM C. KRUEGER.

Among the well-known farmers of Otter Tail county, Minnesota, the proprietor of one hundred and sixty acres in section 2, of Bluffton township, and an active dairyman in this community is the man whose name heads this biographical sketch.

William C. Krueger was born in Dodge county, Wisconsin, on April 28, 1862, the son of William and Wilhelmina (Nell) Krueger, both natives of Germany, the former born in 1838 and the latter about 1840. The paternal grandfather, Christian Krueger, came to America about 1842 and settled in Jefferson county, near Watertown, Wisconsin, where he lived until his death. He was the father of five children, Fred, John, August, William and a daughter.

William Krueger, the father of the subject of this sketch, was brought

by his parents to America at the tender age of four years, and, the family having settled in Jefferson county, Wisconsin, was reared to manhood in that county. Wilhelmina Nell came to America with other members of her family when a girl of fifteen years of age and settled in Woodland, Wisconsin. She met her future husband, William Krueger, in Dodge county, Wisconsin, and was married to him in that county. William Krueger had been a farmer and merchant at Hustis Fort, Wisconsin, but removed from that place in the spring of 1876 to Good Thunder, Blue Earth county, Minnesota, where he engaged in the mercantile business for one year. After selling out his business interests in Good Thunder, he removed to Henderson, Minnesota, where he bought a farm comprising two hundred acres of partially improved land in Sibley county, where he lived until the fall of 1913. He then sold this farm and removed to a farm about one and one-half miles from St. Peter, adjoining the farm of the asylum, where he died on August 1, 1914. His beloved wife survived him and is still living at a very mature age.

To William and Wilhelmina (Nell) Krueger were born nine children, as follow: Frank, a farmer living near Drake, North Dakota; William C., the subject of this sketch; Fred, who died at the age of thirty years at Henderson; Julius, a traveling salesman living at Flasher, North Dakota; Peter, a farmer residing at Bemidji; Flora, who married Adolphus Boden, and died quite early in life; Anna, the wife of Paul Carpenter, who lives at St. Peter, Minnesota; Philip, who lives at New Salem, North Dakota, and Albert, who farms the home farm near St. Peter.

William C. Krueger received his elementary education in the evening schools of St. Paul, where he had gone as a young man to make his way in the world. After working in various wholesale houses in St. Paul for about fifteen years, he removed to Buffalo Lake, Renville county, Minnesota, where he engaged in the saloon business for a period of six years. While working in St. Paul he had invested his savings in railroad land situated in Otter Tail and Wadena counties. Consequently, in 1905, upon quitting the saloon business in Buffalo Lake, he moved to a farm of one hundred and sixty acres in section 2, of Bluffton township, which he had but recently purchased. This land had been homesteaded, and, aside from a few log buildings, contained no further improvements. Determined to improve the farm, Mr. Krueger began to clear the land, to build fences and to erect a frame house. Later he enlarged his house and, in the fall of 1912, erected a new and modern barn, thirty by ninety feet, with two additions, fourteen by forty-two feet, and ten by twelve feet, the latter being a milk room. William C. Krueger has made a specialty of dairying and keeps on an average of from twenty to thirty cows, all of high grade stock. He has a

silo and in fact is up-to-date and modern in every detail. In addition to his home farm, he still possesses the railroad land comprising one hundred and sixty acres.

On September 2, 1891, William C. Krueger was married to Mary Zeigo, a native of Grafton, Ozaukee county, Wisconsin, the daughter of Charles Zeigo, an old settler of that state. Charles Zeigo was a soldier in the Civil War, having served in Company C, Thirty-fourth Regiment, Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry. He died at Winona, Minnesota, at the home of his son, Herman, on March 23, 1915, at the age of ninety-three years. His remains were interred in Fergus Falls, beside those of his wife, who died on October 24, 1897. To Mr. and Mrs. Krueger have been born three children, namely: William A., born on July 18, 1892; Arthur H., November 26, 1897, and Louis E. (Pat), May 6, 1901.

William C. Krueger has been prominent in the political circles of Bluffton township, and, as a Republican, has served as both school treasurer and as justice of the peace. Both he and his beloved wife are devoted members of the Lutheran church, and he is a member of the Order of the Sons of Herman. He has commanded the respect and esteem of the people of Bluffton township and is well known in the social and agricultural circles of his community.

CHARLES H. BOWMAN.

Among the respected and successful agriculturists of Eagle Lake township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, Charles H. Bowman is a worthy citizen. He is a native of St. Olaf township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, and his birth occurred on January 17, 1875. He is one of six children born to the union of James H. and Mary L. (Caldwell) Bowman, natives of New York and Ohio, respectively. The names of their children follow, in the order of their birth: John R., Belle, J. E., Melissa, Charles and Kattie. James H. Bowman removed from his native state to Ohio, but shortly after changed his location to Wisconsin, where he met and married Mary L. Caldwell. In 1873 they removed to St. Olaf township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, and in 1875 purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land (under the soldier's right), which was under the direct management of James H. Bowman until his death, on July 19, 1900. During the Civil War he enlisted in Company K, Twenty-second Regiment, Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, and served his country as a brave and loyal soldier for three years. Mary L. Caldwell was a daughter of Robert and Ann Caldwell, who died in the state of Ohio and St. Olaf township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, respectively. The paternal grandfather of Charles H. Bowman was James Bowman, a native of New York, whose death occurred in that state. His wife died in Iowa.

Charles H. Bowman received his education in the schools of Otter Tail county, Minnesota, and has always remained on the old home place, where his mother, Mary L. (Caldwell) Bowman, also lives. In 1901 Charles H. Bowman was united in marriage to Amanda Edlund, and they are the parents of these children: Lorena, Ernest, Clifford and Vernon.

Charles H. Bowman, his wife and mother are all members of the Presbyterian church, and are actively engaged in the support and advancement of this denomination. Charles H. Bowman is a member of the Sons of Veterans, and is now serving his fourth year as township assessor. He was clerk of school district No. 114 for seven years, and for the past two years has been secretary and treasurer of the Midway Mutual Telephone Company.

JOHN DUBEROWSKI.

John Duberowski is a native of Ohio, being born there on May 15, 1872. His parents, William and Wilhelmina (Brockop) Duberowski, were natives of Germany. The father of John Duberowski came to America in 1871 and after his marriage settled in Cleveland, where he worked in a car-shop and lived for ten years. He brought his family to Minnesota in 1880 and bought the farm of one hundred and sixty acres where he and his son, John, now live, and where his wife died. Their children are John, Emma and Ida. By a previous marriage, Mrs. Duberowski was the mother of three children, whose father's name was Schultz. These children are named Gusta, Andrew and Minnie.

John Duberowski had only limited educational advantages. Attending the local schools he was obliged to discontinue his education in order to make a livelihood. Purchasing forty acres about one mile southeast of his present home, he began his independent career as a farmer. He later acquired forty acres more and after eleven years' residence there, he returned to the old home place, where he has erected all of the buildings excepting the dwelling. He now owns one hundred and twenty acres and his father is the owner of forty acres.

On December 27, 1898, John Duberowski was married to Anna Brockop, who was born in Germany on September 20, 1880, and came to America at the age of three with her parents. She is the daughter of Fred and Wilhelmine Brockop, of Edington township, this county. They came from Germany in 1883. The mother died in 1911, her husband having preceded her in January, 1903. He farmed on eighty acres of land. Mrs. Duberowski has three sisters and one brother, namely: Bertha, Gusta, Otto and Emma, named in the order of their birth, she being the third born. To Mr. and Mrs. Duberowski were born six children, of whom the eldest son, John, who was born on January 22, 1900, is deceased. The others are:

Paul, born on September 6, 1902; Vivian, November 5, 1906; Lulu, October 9, 1909; Myrtle, May 25, 1911, and Geneva, March 22, 1913. Their parents are members of the German Lutheran church, which was also the religious affiliation of Mrs. Duderowski's family.

Such has been Mr. Duderowski's activity outside of his vocational work that he has retained a keen interest in all that concerns the welfare of the commonwealth in which he lives. A devoted father and husband, a kind, considerate neighbor, a man of broad sympathies, it is not surprising that he has many close friends among the residents of this county.

JOHN BYE.

John Bye is one of those men who, by diligent effort and honesty, have earned the respect of their fellow citizens and a comfortable competency as well. He is a native of Norway and is the son of Nels and Martha (Hanson) Bye, also natives of Norway, who remained in their native land until their deaths. Nels Bye was a farmer and the father of three sons: Ole, Christian and John, John being the second born.

John Bye emigrated to America in 1872, at the age of twenty-three years of age, his birth having occurred on January 1, 1849. Finding the education already received inadequate to the needs of his new life, he attended school for one winter after his arrival in this country. For seven years he engaged in various occupations, mostly in Wisconsin, and in 1879 removed to Otter Tail county, Minnesota, where he engaged in agricultural pursuits. In 1880 he was successful in winning the hand of Liza Kjer and, with the new responsibilities of home making, he became interested in operating for himself. With this view in mind, an homestead was purchased consisting of one hundred and twenty-three acres, located in Eagle Lake township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, and immediate improvements were begun. Forty acres have been added to the original property, and it is now well improved. There have been born three children to the union of John Bye and Liza Kier, namely: Martha, Nels J. and Hans A. Mrs. Bye died on February 2, 1900. John Bye is a member of the Norwegian Lutheran church, in which his wife was also an earnest worker.

John Bye has proven his worth to the community by his having been appointed to offices of trust, time and again, holding the office of township assessor for a period of seventeen years. He has also served his fellow citizens in the capacity of township clerk and as justice of the peace, also as clerk of the school district, and has been secretary of the church congregation the past thirty-three years. That he has discharged all duties to the best of his ability and has given conscientious service, denotes him to be of sterling character and the confidence reposed in him has not been misplaced.

KNUT N. SONMOR.

Like many of the prosperous and progressive farmers of St. Olaf township, in Otter Tail county, Minnesota, Knut N. Sonmor, of this sketch, has found time from his busy life to devote a part of his talents and ability to the welfare of the community, as a result of which he is one of those citizens who have won a place of note among the men of the township and county for their efforts and unselfish interest in the development and advancement of their communities. As a result of his success in agricultural pursuits and because of his place in the public life of the locality, Knut N. Sonmor is entitled to a place among the prominent citizens of the community.

Knut N. Sonmor was born on the Sonmor homestead in St. Olaf township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, on October 22, 1869, the son of Nels and Petronille Sonmor, both of whom were natives of Norway. Nels Sonmor was a farmer of that country until the year 1866, when he came to America and after a year of residence in the state of Iowa, he came to St. Olaf township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, and secured one hundred and sixty acres of land, on which he built a log cabin for a home, after which he broke up the sod of his new possession, cultivating his land successfully and later added to his holdings until he was the owner of three hundred and fifty acres of well-tilled and highly-productive land. From the days when this pioneer farmer came to St. Olaf township, making the trip from St. Cloud, Minnesota, by ox team, until later when he was a well-to-do farmer, he was compelled to suffer many privations and hardships, due to the distance from market, where he could sell his produce and buy his supplies; but with a spirit of determination and a persevering nature, Nels Sonmor was able to rise above his drawbacks and become one of the more prosperous men of agricultural life in the community. Nels Sonmor and his wife were the parents of five children, Jacob Knut, the subject of this sketch, Martin, Nels and Mary. In church circles Nels Sonmor was a man known to be especially active, giving largely of his time and effort for the work of the Norwegian Lutheran church, of which he was a prominent member. Politically, the elder Sonmor was an ardent Republican.

Knut N. Sonmor received his education in the common schools of St. Olaf township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, after which he helped his father on the home farm for some time. In the year 1891 he went to Polk county, Minnesota, where he engaged in the restaurant business for three years, following which he returned to St. Olaf township, Otter Tail county, and rented a farm on which he lived for about two years. In the year 1895, after his marriage, Knut N. Sonmor went to Wadena county, Minnesota, where he homesteaded eighty acres of land, where he farmed until the

year 1898, at which time he came back to Tordenskjold township, this county, and bought eighty acres of land, farming there until the year 1900, when he bought the old home farm of one hundred and ninety-six acres, where he now lives, engaged in general farming and stock raising.

During the year 1895 Knut N. Sonmor was married to Mary Johnson, who was born on November 27, 1869, the daughter of Ole Jensen and wife, and to this marriage have been born the following children: Mae, Julia, Ruth, Oscar, Clare, Johnnie and Nellie. Knut N. Sonmor and his family are members of the Norwegian Lutheran church.

In the public and official life of St. Olaf township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, Knut N. Sonmor has taken his part willingly, and he is a citizen who for seven years served the office of township assessor and for six years served as treasurer of the school board, with well-known ability and tact. Politically, Mr. Sonmor is independent of party in local affairs, preferring to be of use and service to his community wherever he can, without regard to party or creed.

CLAES ALFRED LUNDBERG.

Far away Sweden has contributed many a thrifty farmer and good citizen to this county, none of whom stands higher than Claes Lundberg, who came here with his parents when he was only fifteen years old. He was born in Sweden, February 17, 1856, and is the son of Johanas and Mary (Anderson) Lundberg, both natives of Sweden. The mother of Claes Lundberg was the second wife of his father, with whom she came to America in 1871. They journeyed from St. Cloud to Parkers Prairie in a primitive wagon drawn by two faithful oxen. It was July 25 or 27 when they arrived in the little town which for many years has been their home and that of their children. Mr. Lundberg, while a carpenter, also acquired one hundred and sixty-acres in Eastern township as a homestead, and here he died on March 21, 1873, leaving a widow and two children, the eldest being the subject of this sketch and the youngest being Fred, who is now a farmer in Plentywood, Montana. The mother lived until October 15, 1882. By a previous marriage, Mr. Lundberg was the father of six children, all of whom are deceased.

Claes A. Lundberg, who was educated in the common schools of Sweden, came to this country in his youth and on March 7, 1877, took up a homestead of a quarter section where he now lives, in section 20, Eastern township. Here he cleared the land and built a home and other equipment.

In 1884 Claes A. Lundberg was married to Tilda Anderson, who was born in Sweden, where her father, Andres Anderson, lived and died. Only one child, a son, August Alfred, is at home, the other child, a daughter,

named Mary Alfield, being deceased. Mrs. Tilda Lundberg died on December 26, 1914. Mr. Lundberg has been prominent in this community and has served as supervisor and member of the school board. He is an enterprising and painstaking workman, a loyal citizen, upholding always the good, a devoted husband and father, and a man whose conduct and career have been guided by principles of right and justice.

LAWRENCE P. STENSTROM.

Lawrence P. Stenstrom, who for more than thirty-six years has been an active minister of the Swedish Lutheran church, in Otter Tail county, Minnesota, was born in Sweden on June 18, 1843, he being the son of Jacob Peter Stenstrom and Gustava Elizabeth Martinson, both of whom were born in Sweden. Jacob Peter Stenstrom died in 1845. His widow, Gustava Elizabeth Stenstrom, were the parents of two children, John J. and Lawrence Peter. J. P. Stenstrom and his family were active members of the Swedish Lutheran church in their native country.

Lawrence Peter Stenstrom was educated in the public schools of his native country, and after his marriage, in Sweden, he came to America in 1872 and located in the state of Pennsylvania, near the city of Warren, where Mr. Stenstrom made his home for seven years and then moved to Otter Tail county, Minnesota. On reaching Otter Tail county, Lawrence Peter Stenstrom became the minister of the Elizabeth, Minnesota, Swedish Lutheran church, he since having been in charge of the church at Fergus Falls, Pelican Rapids, Erhardt and Amor. The Reverend Stenstrom is now the minister to the churches at Elizabeth and at Erhardt, Minnesota. Lawrence Peter Stenstrom has been a minister of the Swedish Lutheran church during a term of thirty-six years. In addition to his ministerial work, the Reverend Stenstrom cares for the activities on his farm of one hundred and two acres, located in Elizabeth township, Otter Tail county.

Lawrence P. Stenstrom, on January 21, 1866, was married to Julia Charlotte Stenstrom, and to this marriage have been born nine children, Svan, Gothold, Samuel, Joseph, Gabriel, Bina, Ruth, Miriam and Nina.

LAURITS M. HEGGEN.

Laurits M. Heggen, the son of Martin L. and Ann Heggen, was born in Fillmore county, this state, on March 28, 1872. The parents were natives of Norway and came to the United States in 1860, landed in the New York and moved direct to Fillmore county, where the father worked for others for some four years. After deciding to seek a new location, he walked to Otter Tail county, where he purchased eighty acres of land and then returned

afoot to his home for his family. Having them established in their new home he returned with an ox team for the family supplies. He later bought more land. He lived for seven or eight years in Fergus Falls, but returned to the home farm two years ago, where he now lives, the wife having died in 1914. Mr. and Mrs. Heggen were the parents of the following children: Ingaborg, Christine, Laurits, Adolph (deceased), Anton, Julia, Samuel and Martin.

Laurits M. Heggen received his education in the common schools of Otter Tail county, where he has lived the greater part of his life. On March 9, 1898, he was married to Carrie Rude, who was a native of Norway. They are the parents of five children: Arthur, Myrtle, Mauris, Clarence and Arnold, all of whom are at home.

Mr. Heggen purchased his farm of one hundred and fifty-two acres in Oscar township in 1898. He has improved and developed the place and erected most of the buildings.

The family are members of the Lutheran church, in which they take an active interest.

Mr. Heggen, besides owning his most excellent farm, is the owner of stock in the Farmers Elevator Company at Rothsay and in the Farmers Telephone Company. He is a successful farmer and business man, and one of much influence in his community.

JOHN G. HAGGSTROM.

The present age demands of men who are to attain a position of prominence in the world, self-reliance, industry and an unswerving devotion to duty. All of these elements of character have been exemplified in the life of John G. Haggstrom, who has gained more than ordinary recognition in the agricultural field. He who is the subject of this sketch was born on January 1, 1853, in Sweden, and is the son of Gustav Pearson and Mary M. (Greta) Pearson, both of whom were born in Sweden. The parents of John G. Haggstrom never left their native land, where they lived on an old homestead, to come to America as most of their neighbors were doing at that time. They were devout members of the Lutheran church.

John G. Haggstrom came to this country in 1869, at the age of sixteen years. He landed at Quebec, Canada, practically alone and without friends upon whom he could rely until he was started in the business world. He went first to Detroit, Michigan, and then to Chicago. In Lockport, Illinois, where the subject of this sketch finally took up his residence, he worked for fourteen years in the stone quarries and as a carpenter of that community. The initial appearance of John G. Haggstrom in Otter Tail county was made in December, of the year 1882. After remaining at Pelican Rapids

four months he moved, in 1883, to the town of Maine, where he bought forty acres of land. In 1884 he bought thirty-two acres of land and three years later added twenty-seven acres to his possessions. In 1900 he bought twenty-seven acres and seven years later added forty acres to his farm, which now extends over an area of one hundred and sixty acres. The farm is in an excellent state of improvement and the owner continues to keep it supplied with all modern conveniences.

John G. Haggstrom was twice married, first to Mary Johnson, the daughter of Jonas Johnson, on the 27th of June, 1882. To this union were born Amanda, who is a nurse in Moscow, Idaho; five children who died in childhood, and one son, who died at the age of twenty-two years. His first wife passed away on the 3rd of August, 1896. On the 4th of June, 1898, he was united in matrimony to Hannah Honson, the daughter of Hans Pearson, a native of Sweden, who never emigrated to this country. Mr. and Mrs. John G. Haggstrom have two sons, Conrad and Gustaf Adolph, and are members of the Lutheran church, which they attend regularly. In political affairs, the subject of this sketch has never taken a prominent part, but has been content to devote his time to his agricultural interests. In traveling over the rural sections of the county, Mr. Haggstrom finds an automobile an indispensable convenience.

TORKEL E. RISBRUDT.

Torkel E. Risbrudt is generally known throughout this section as a leader in public affairs, and as a citizen he is highly respected. He is the son of Engebret and Kari (Ellefson) Tarkelson, both natives of Norway, where his birth occurred on November 6, 1845. Engebret Tarkelson was born on April 20, 1825, and emigrated to America in 1861. Immediately upon his arrival in this country, he located in Spring Grove Houston county, Minnesota, and the following year removed to Winneshiek county, Iowa, where he remained until 1867. He then removed to Douglas county, Minnesota, where he remained until May 24, 1868, at which time he squatted on land which was not surveyed at the time, located in St. Olaf township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, and continued to reside on that place until his death, on October 7, 1907. This home was purchased under the homestead law and consisted of one hundred and sixty acres. Kari Ellefson was born on September 24, 1824, and died on October 4, 1864, in Winneshiek county, Iowa.

Torkel E. Risbrudt received the most of his education in the schools of his native land and three months' attendance at the schools in Iowa. As a young man he squatted on one hundred and sixty acres of land in St. Olaf township, adjoining his father's farm, and paid ten dollars for his first

sack of flour, which he purchased at Alexandria, Minnesota, and for which he borrowed the money. During the first years of his farming operations he did teaming in connection with his agricultural work and gradually added to his holdings until he owned four hundred and eighty acres of well-improved land. Before he began selling this property to his sons it was devoted to general farming and stock raising.

Torkel E. Risbrudt has seen many changes in this section, his first memory of Fergus Falls being but a lone log cabin in which he spent the night upon his first trip to that town. Among the many offices which he has held are those of constable, assessor, chairman of township supervisors, township clerk and director. He also served as treasurer of the township for sixteen years. Politically, he votes independently, and his religious affiliations are with the Norwegian Lutheran church.

On March 18, 1873, Torkel E. Risbrudt was united in marriage to Geuine Ellfson, and they are the parents of six children, whose names follow: Edward, Clara, Theodore, Christopher and Helena.

OLE M. RUDE.

Successful and prosperous as a farmer, after some years of determined and persevering effort to reach a position of independence in the agricultural circles of Pelican township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, Ole M. Rude is a man who has shown his desirability as a citizen and has demonstrated his possession of those qualities which, used in matters of public welfare and progress for the community, have given him a rank among the appreciated men of Otter Tail county and Pelican township.

Ole M. Rude was born in Norway, December 20, 1856, the son of Martin O. and Sigeri (Olson) Rude, both of whom spent their entire lives in Norway, where Martin O. Rude was a man engaged in general work.

Ole M. Rude, the subject of this sketch was educated in Norway, after which he came, in the year 1883, to America, landed at Quebec, Canada, and from there came to Otter Tail county, settling at Pelican Rapids, near where he worked for some years as a farm hand, engaged in clearing the land of the early settlers in Pelican township. In the year 1887 Ole M. Rude bought forty acres of land in Pelican township, a place which he cleared of timber and brush, and where he erected the necessary buildings, on land which as yet was bare of any improvement. Since his first investment, Ole M. Rude has added to his land holdings until he now owns one hundred acres of land in Pelican township, and sixty-three acres of valuable land on the east side of Lake Luda, on this land engaging in general farming, together with some stock raising.

During the year 1884 Ole M. Rude was married to Carrie Marimson,

who was born in Norway, the daughter of Martin Broughten and wife, who were natives of Norway. To the marriage of Ole and Carrie (Martinson) Rude was born one son, Martin. In the year 1885 Ole M. Rude was married, secondly, to Carrie Jacobson, who was a native of Norway, the daughter of Jacob Haakensen and wife, who were among the early comers to Pelican township. Ole M. and Carrie (Jacobson) Rude are the parents of the following children: Jacob, Simon Henry, Minnie, Amalia, Carl Oscar, Lawrence George, Agnes Sophie, Clara Otthilia and Eddie Norman. Mr. Rude and his family are well-known and respected members of the United Lutheran church of Pelican township.

Politically, Ole M. Rude has taken no especial part as an office holder or public man, but has served as a good citizen in the ranks, one who is known to be willing to do all in his power for the interests of his community.

ENGBRET L. KVERNSTOEN.

Engbret L. Kvernstoen is of Norwegian parentage and was born in Norway, January 24, 1865, his parents being Lars O. and Ingri (Embrettdatter) Kvernstoen, who emigrated to America in the spring of 1860. Upon their arrival in the United States they located in Iowa for one year, and then removed to Goodhue county, Minnesota. Their intentions were to eventually establish a home in Otter Tail county, Minnesota, and after remaining in Goodhue county for one year they began their journey to Tumuli township, Ingri (Embrettdatter) Kvernstoen traveling by team, accompanying Carl Steien and family, while the husband and children journeyed by rail as far as Benson, where they hired a team to take them to Tumuli township, where they joined the mother. This was in the spring of 1871 and they at once entered a homestead of one hundred and twenty acres, on which Engbret L. Kvernstoen now lives. Lars O. and Ingri (Embrettdatter) Kvernstoen remained on this place until their deaths. They were the parents of four children, all of whom are deceased with the exception of Engbret L. Kvernstoen.

Engbret L. Kvernstoen received his meager education in the district schools of Tumuli township, Otter Tail county, and after finishing same, assisted his father with the work on the home place and has always remained on the farm. This farm now consists of two hundred acres, eighty acres having been added to the original purchase. General farming is the mode of cultivation, also some stock raising. The names of the brother and sisters of Engbret L. Kvernstoen are as follow: Ole, Anne and Kirsti.

In the fall of 1890 Engbret L. Kvernstoen was united in marriage to Ingeborg Sageng, and to them have been born nine children: Inga, Ole,

Otto (deceased), Carl, Marie, Laura, Ottelie, Ruth and Otto. Engebret L. Kvernstoen and his wife are members of the Norwegian Lutheran church.

The paternal grandparents of Engebret L. Kvernstoen, Ole and Anna Kvernstoen, were natives of Norway and lived and died in that country, she at the advanced age of more than ninety years.

LARS O. RONNING.

Lars O. Ronning is a highly-respected citizen of Dane Prairie township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota. He has been very successful in his chosen calling, and his native ability, for honesty and worth, has won him many friends. Lars O. Ronning is one of nine children born to the union of Ole Larson Ronning and Ingeborg Anderson, both natives of Norway. The birth of Lars O. Ronning occurred on December 31, 1845, in Norway, where he was reared to manhood and where all but two weeks of his education was received.

Ole Larson Ronning emigrated to America in 1867, and located in Goodhue county, Minnesota, where he rented a farm for a period of two years, in the meantime sending for his family, consisting of his wife and nine children, who arrived in 1868. They then removed to Chippewa county, Minnesota, where the father and his son, Lars O. Ronning, each entered a claim or homestead. Five years later Ole Larson Ronning sold his land and removed to Dane Prairie township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, and purchased a homestead, where both he and his wife died. The youngest daughter still resides on the home place. The names of their children follow: Thor, Lars O., Anna, Mettie, Bertha, Julia, Ole, Christian and Sophia.

Lars O. Ronning is indebted to the schools of his native land for the education which he received. After his arrival in this country he attended school for a period of two weeks, but discontinued his studies for the opportunity of accepting a position as painter in Minneapolis, Minnesota, where he remained for six years following his trade. He was united in marriage to Oleva Erickson, while a resident of Minneapolis, the marriage having been solemnized in 1875. Three years later he removed to Dane Prairie township, Otter Tail county, and purchased eighty acres of homestead land, on which he now resides. While engaged in agricultural pursuits he has followed his trade most of the time and is now practically retired from active labor. Most of the improvements on the farm have been made by Lars O. Ronning, who has developed the place into a very productive piece of property. His wife, Oleva (Erickson) Ronning, was born in Norway and emigrated, alone, to the United States, her parents having remained in Norway all of their lives. To the union of Lars O. Ronning and his wife

have been born eight children: John, Severt, Oleva, Laura, Phena, Bernard, Albert and Mary.

The members of this family are affiliated with the Norwegian Lutheran church and are actively engaged in the advancement and support of same. Lars O. Ronning was elected to serve in the capacity of supervisor for Dane Prairie township and also as school director.

KNUD C. HANSEN.

Among the prosperous financial institutions of Otter Tail county mention must be made of the First National Bank, of Battle Lake, which is a reorganization of the old Otter Tail County State Bank, and of which Knud C. Hansen is the cashier.

Knud C. Hansen was born near Christiana, Norway, June 16, 1868, a son of Christopher Hansen Bye and Boel Skatvedt. After his marriage, Mr. Hansen's father dropped the "Bye," and used "Stovern" in its place. Both Mr. Hansen's parents were born in Norway and spent their entire lives in that country. The elder Hansen was a farmer and reared a family of seven children, two of whom came to America, Helga, who is unmarried and lives in San Francisco, California, and Knud C., the immediate subject of this sketch.

Knud C. Hansen received his education in the public schools of his native land, and at the age of nineteen years came to America. For seven years he was employed as clerk in a store in Sargent county, North Dakota, but in 1895 removed to Battle Lake, this county, and engaged in business with T. A. Ranstad, under the firm name of Ranstad & Hansen, and was thus engaged in the hardware and implement business until 1907, a period of twelve years. In 1907 Mr. Hansen reorganized the old Otter Tail County State Bank into the First National Bank of Battle Lake, and was elected cashier of the institution, a position which he now holds.

The First National Bank of Battle Lake has as its president, Charles Keith; vice-president, Henry Olson; cashier, K. C. Hansen and assistant cashier, E. J. Rudh. A condensed statement from the report made to the comptroller of the currency on May 1, 1915, shows the bank to have total resources of \$283,078.17, divided as follows: Loans, \$213,613.61; overdrafts, \$138.02; United States bonds, \$25,000; banking house, \$8,000; stock federal reserve bank, \$850.00; cash on hand and due from banks, \$34,226.54; redemption fund with United States treasurer, \$1,250.00. The liabilities of the bank, which amount to \$228,078.17, are divided as follows: Capital stock, \$25,000.00; surplus, \$3,500.00; undivided profits, \$1,263.03; circulation, \$25,000.00; deposits, \$228,315.14. The bank makes a specialty of farm loans at the lowest rates, and all matters entrusted to that institu-



KNUD C. HANSEN.



tion receive prompt, careful and confidential attention. The bank is in a most prosperous condition, due in a large measure to the efficient banking methods of its officers, and the cordial relations between the public and its cashier.

Knud C. Hansen, since coming to America, has been identified with the Republican party. He is a member of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks and of the Modern Woodmen of America at Fergus Falls.

JOHAN A. MELBY.

Johan A. Melby is a native of Calmar, Winneshiek county, Iowa, and his birth occurred on February 2, 1869. He is the son of Andrew Johnson and Martha (Osselson) Melby. Andrew Johnson Melby was born in 1825, in Ida, Wermeland, Sweden, and emigrated to America when a young man, chosing Chicago as his location. While a resident of that city he was engaged in various occupations, and while there his first marriage was solemnized. During the great struggle of the Civil War, Andrew Johnson Melby was drafted for service, but was released because of disability. About this time the death of his first wife occurred, and he returned to his native country, where he was employed for a dredging concern. For eight years he was a resident of Norway and Sweden, at the end of which time he returned to America, locating in Winneshiek county, Iowa. Shortly after his arrival in Winneshiek county he rented land and engaged in agricultural pursuits for some years, also operating a threshing outfit, of which he was the owner.

Andrew Johnson Melby was united in marriage to Martha Osselson, a native of Gran, Hadland, Norway, who was born in 1832. She was a widow and the mother of one daughter, who died when very young. To the union of Andrew Johnson and Martha (Osselson) Melby were both these children: Johan, Mary, now Mrs. Gunder Hanson, died in Grant county; Caroline, deceased; Olaf, deceased, and Anna, also deceased. In the fall of 1871 the family moved to St. Olaf township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, and purchased a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres, located in Eagle Lake township. Their home consisted of a "dugout," in which they lived for nine years, at the end of which time a log house was erected, and is still standing on the original site.

Johan A. Melby received his education in the local schools of Eagle Lake township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, and has always resided on the home place, which he now owns. General farming and the breeding and raising of Shorthorn cattle are the principal industries of this farm, which is well improved and well managed.

MICHAEL WALZ.

Among the progressive and influential citizens of Otter Tail county, Minnesota, none are held in greater esteem than Michael Walz, who has been honored with many positions of trust. His birth occurred on October 13, 1852, in Illinois, and he is the son of Michael and Eva (Schmidt) Walz, both natives of Germany. They emigrated to America in 1848 and located in Illinois, where Michael Walz engaged in agricultural pursuits. In 1860 they removed to Stearns county, Minnesota, where a farm was purchased and this became their home until their deaths. They were the parents of fifteen children.

Michael Walz received his education in St. John's College and was graduated from that institution in 1868, after which he taught school for seven years in Stearns county, Minnesota. He then removed to Otter Tail county, Minnesota, locating in the town of Perham, where he engaged in the general mercantile business. He continued in this line for nearly fifteen years and then entered the banking business, organizing a private bank known as the Weber, Kemper & Walz Bank. This bank was operated from 1890 until 1900, at which time Michael Walz sold his interest in the institution and dealt in real estate. In 1912 he organized the Perham Holding Company and became its secretary and manager, which position he occupied until 1915. He served the public as representative from 1903 until 1907.

In 1882 Michael Walz was united in marriage to Elizabeth Ries, and they became the parents of five children, whose names follow: Fred A., Romeo P., Arthur R., and Katheryn M. and Antoinett M., who are twins. Michael Walz and his wife are devout members of the Catholic church, and Mr. Walz is a member of the Knights of Columbus.

EDWARD L. JENAL.

Edward L. Jenal is one of the representative citizens of the community of Perham, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, and his progressive ideas have been of great benefit to the citizens. He is the son of J. P. and Katherine (Goeden) Jenal, and his birth occurred on November 3, 1879, in Cedar county, Nebraska. J. P. Jenal is a native of Switzerland and his wife is a native of Wisconsin. J. P. Jenal is engaged in the real-estate business and is located in Los Angeles, California.

Edward L. Jenal received his early education in the public schools of Hartington, Nebraska, graduating from the high school in that town. He then attended Creighton University, of Omaha, Nebraska, upon the completion of which he entered St. Vincent College, of Los Angeles, California.

and received his Bachelor of Arts degree in 1902. Soon after this he became assistant cashier of the Pierce County Bank, in Pierce county, Nebraska, and occupied that position for six years. He then became assistant manager of the Chaffee-Miller Milling Company, in Castleton, North Dakota, which position he held for two years. In 1911 he became manager of the Globe Milling Company, in Perham, Minnesota, and has retained that position until the present time.

In 1906 Edward L. Jenal was united in marriage to Florence Fay Hutton, and they are the parents of one child, Winnefred. Florence Fay (Hutton) Jenal is a native of Pierce, Nebraska.

Edward L. Jenal is a supporter of the Republican party and very active in promoting party principles. Both he and his wife are members of the Catholic church. Besides his other interests, Edward L. Jenal is financial secretary for the Perham Council No. 1773, Knights of Columbus, in which order he is a member.

NILS J. SKOGLUND.

Every successful business man, it is said, leaves behind him a trail of accretions to the well-to-do classes. His children start with advantages of education, environment, easy command of capital. Their occupations, their standards of living are on a new plane. This is what Mr. Skoglund has done for his children and his community. He has been for twenty years a resident of this county and for fifteen years the township treasurer. Mr. Skoglund was born in Sweden on December 1, 1864, and is the son of Jens and Anna (Jenson) Jenson.

Jens Jenson, the paternal grandfather of the subject of this sketch, was a farmer by occupation. The maternal grandfather was a soldier in the Danish War. The father of Nils J. Skoglund, who was a laboring man, is still living in his native country of Sweden, but his wife has passed away. They were the parents of six children, namely: Sven, who lives in Sweden; Nils J., Peter and Anna, residents of the United States; Bengta, who lives in Sweden, and John, who died in America.

After finishing his education in his native state, the subject of this sketch did military service for two years. He then came to America in 1891 and for the two following years worked on a railroad near Fargo, North Dakota, which was then his home. In 1895 he came to this county, where he purchased a farm which is the site of his present home. In Eastern township he now owns two hundred and forty acres, upon which he has built substantial buildings and fences. He is a well-known raiser of Holstein cattle and Poland China hogs. Mr. Skoglund's present possessions are an interesting contrast to his store of worldly goods when he arrived on the

shores of America, for at that time he had been obliged to borrow the money with which he bought his ticket which was to bring him from the Old World.

The marriage which made Mr. Skoglund and Elsie Christiana Pehrson man and wife took place in 1893. The bride had come to America with her parents when she was a child, her father, Andrew Pehrson, migrated to Fargo, North Dakota, and after a residence in that state came to this county, where he took up the occupation of farming. The children born in this household are: Edwin, Hilden, Lelia, Della, Rhode and Bernard.

Mr. and Mrs. Skoglund are interested in the Swedish Lutheran church, of which they are members. Mr. Skoglund is now occupying the office of township trustee, a position which he has filled with credit for the past fifteen years. He is interested in many business enterprises in Parkers Prairie, being vice-president of the Farmers Equity Association, of which he was one of the organizers and since its beginning a director. He is also a director of the Joy Creamery Company, located at Parkers Prairie. He is also vice-president of the Eastern Telephone Company and was one of its organizers, and has held the office he now holds, namely, the vice-presidency, since the beginning of the organization. The many positions of honor and trust which have been held by the above named gentleman classify him as one of the progressive, wide-awake citizens of Parkers Prairie. His life has been no small contribution to the general welfare of this community, who in return give him their respect and esteem.

JENS CHRISTIANSON.

When an ambitious youth starts out with no capital except his health and his determination to succeed and middle age finds him a representative of his chosen line of work, no better evidence is required to show that in the beginning he possessed the necessary traits of character. Jens Christianson, a native of Sweden, was born there in July, 1866.

Christian Johnson and Anna Christianson, parents of the gentleman whose name appears above, were natives of Sweden, but came to America in 1807 to live with their son, Jens. The father was a working man in the old country. Here they lived until their death.

Jens Christianson, the subject of this sketch, went to school in Sweden and came to America in December, 1892. He journeyed to this township, where he has lived ever since. About a year after his arrival he bought eighty acres and to this later added forty acres more, and again twenty acres. In 1900 he bought one hundred and twenty acres in section 28, of Eastern township, and later erected the buildings in which he and his family have lived and carried on their farm work.

Jens Christianson was united in marriage to Mrs. Anna (Skoglund) Carlson, and to this union five children have been born, namely: Melvin, Ruth, Stella, Freda and Mildred. Anna Skoglund was first married to August Carlson, to which union were born two children, William and Agnes. Mr. and Mrs. Christianson are affiliated with the Swedish Lutheran church, in which they are active and devout members.

Mr. Christianson, besides his farming interests, is a stockholder in the Joy Creamery Company. He has been gifted with the qualities of perseverance and energy for which his countrymen are noted, and he richly deserves the prosperity which has come as a result of his active, ambitious career.

WILLIAM TANGLEN.

So sharp is modern competition that even the man who inherits an estate and is able to retain it is accredited rightfully with success. William Tanglen, a well-known farmer of Parkers Prairie, deserves mention here not only as a man who has attained recognition by reason of his material prosperity, but because, as a public servant, he has been honorable and upright in the discharge of his duty. William Tanglen, a native of the farm on which he now lives, was born on November 26, 1881, his parents being John and Louise (Peterson) Tanglen, both of whom were natives of Sweden.

The paternal grandfather of Mr. Tanglen was Peter Magnus, who lived and died in Sweden. The maternal grandparents were Peter and Ellen Hawkinson, the latter of whom died in Sweden, and her husband came to America in 1873, dying in Otter Tail county. Louise Peterson came to America in 1871 and lived at Stillwater, Minnesota. Her husband was educated in Sweden and came to the United States about 1860, locating in Illinois, where he enlisted in the Fifteenth Regiment, Illinois Volunteer Infantry. During the Civil War he was wounded and was in the hospital, but served until the close of the war.

John Tanglen then returned to Illinois for awhile and later came to Stillwater, where he met and married Mrs. Tanglen. After taking up various occupations, in 1860 he began farming, homesteading a quarter section, the farm on which his son now lives, remaining there until his death, on June 19, 1902. His widow still lives on the farm. It is said that he and Frank B. Saunders were the first settlers of this township. Mr. and Mrs. John Tanglen are the parents of twelve children, of whom Minnie, the eldest, is deceased. The others are: Hilda, Mary, Matilda, Peter, Anna, William, Lydia, Albena, Josie, Blanch and Walter. The parents belonged to the Lutheran church.

William Tanglen, who has continued to live on the home place, has been a successful farmer, to which fact his well-cultivated and modern-equipped farm as well as his beautiful new home, will bear testimony. Although not given to seeking public office or honors, Mr. Tanglen has served his community in an official capacity, and has also aided the movements which in his judgment contributed to the general good of the commonwealth of which he has become a prominent factor.

ANDREW ANDERSEN.

As a boy denied those things which are part of youthful life and without educational advantage or training; to be thrown upon the world with the necessity of relying on one's resources and, regardless of this handicap, to rise to a place of prominence in the business life of the community and to be given a place of note in the public affairs of the locality of his residence is the record of Andrew Andersen, who is one of the leading citizens of Otter Tail county and of New York Mills.

Andrew Andersen was born in Finland, February 18, 1854, the son of Andrew and Mary Huhtaketa, both of whom were born in Finland, where they lived on one of Andrew Huhtaketa's farms during their entire life. Andrew Huhtaketa and wife were the parents of eight children, of whom was Andrew Andersen, the subject of this sketch.

Andrew Andersen had opportunity for attending school but one day in his life and that when about eighteen years of age, shortly after which time he came to America and went to the state of Ohio, where he was employed on a railroad for some time and then later he engaged in general farm work, after which he went to Ashtabula, Ohio, and was there employed as a dock-hand, until the year 1870, when he came to Otter Tail county, Minnesota, and bought a farm of one hundred and forty acres of land in Leaf Lake township, land which as yet was uncleared. With a determination to succeed, Andrew Andersen proceeded to clear his newly-acquired land and for a home he built a log cabin, one which is in use to this day. During the year 1868 Mr. Andersen bought eighty acres of land located in the village of New York Mills, to which place he moved and became the agent for the Monarch Elevator Company, with which company he was employed until they became a part of the New York Mills Farmers Elevator Company, when he was continued as the agent of the new proprietors.

During the year 1881 Andrew Andersen was married to Mary L. Runts, who was born in Finland, the daughter of Eric Runts and wife, who at an early date emigrated to America and settled in Otter Tail county, Minnesota. To the marriage of Andrew and Mary Andersen were born the following children: Emil A., who is manager of a store at Hibbing, Minne-

sota; Huldah, a school teacher; John L., a farmer who lives on the home place; Ida, who lives at home; and Alma, George, William, Vernon, and two children who died in infancy.

Andrew and Mary Andersen are members of the Lutheran church at New York Mills and take an active part in the work of that congregation. In politics, Mr. Andersen is an ardent Republican.

Andrew Andersen is a man who amid his personal business affairs has found time to work in the interests of community good, and for those things which have had no small part in the development of the town and the county.

CHRISTIAN JOHANESSEN.

A well-known farmer and man who has taken active interest in the affairs of Pelican township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, is Christian Johannesen. Successful as a farmer and stock raiser, public spirited in his attitude to his community, and a man of force and personality so that he has become an influence among his associates and fellow citizens, he is a man who has a place among the prominent citizens of the township and county.

Christian Johannesen was born in Norway, October 30, 1859, the son of Johaness Hogenson and Martha Christianson, who were natives of Norway, in which country they lived until the year 1880, when they came to America, and located in Pelican township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, where Johaness Hogenson bought twenty acres of land, which he farmed for the remainder of his days. To the marriage of Johaness Hogenson and Martha Christianson were born eight children, Agnes, Hakon, Christian, Mathias, Karen, Netta, Mathia and Marie.

Christian Johannesen was educated in the public schools of Norway, after which he became a farmer, later, in the year 1882, coming to America and locating in Otter Tail county, Minnesota, where he bought a farm of eighty acres of land, to which he subsequently added until he now has one hundred and sixty-six acres of well improved and highly cultivated land, on which he lives as a farmer and stock raiser.

During the year 1880 Christianson Johannesen was married, in Norway, to Marie Johannesen, daughter of Johaness Mekelsen and Agnets Haagenon, who came to America with their daughter and son-in-law and at their home lived for fifteen years, after which the elder Mekelson and his wife died.

Christian and Marie Johannesen are the parents of eleven children, Anna, Edins, Mimma, Melvin, Carl, Hans, Alvin, Henry, Joseph and Clara. Mr. Johannesen and his family are active members of the Norwegian Lutheran church.

In political or public life Christian Johannesen has taken no especial

part, but has preferred to serve his community as a good citizen and as one ready to volunteer his services in those ways or places where he may be of use or benefit. Mr. Johanesen and his family are well and favorably known throughout the township, they being people who are highly respected and esteemed for their part in the life of Pelican township and of Otter Tail county.

AUGUST J. SITZ.

A man of conspicuous affiliation in business and financial circles of Otter Tail county, one who in public life has served prominently and who has brought honor to his community as a representative in political association, a citizen who in the affairs of local life has been given a place second to none, the name of August J. Sitz takes a leading place in the record of life and event of Otter Tail county, and of the town of New York Mills.

August J. Sitz was born in the province of East Poland, near Schneidemuhl, Prussia, Germany, on June 24, 1851, the son of August and Dorothy (Utke) Sitz, both of whom were born in Germany, there grew to maturity and were married, after which August Sitz, Sr., took up a position as manager of a large farm in his native country, the duties of which he followed for seven years, and as compensation for which he received fifty dollars per year, his house rent, the use of one cow and the wool from two sheep, this product being spun in the home. In the year 1853 August Sitz, Sr., with his family, came to America and went to the city of Milwaukee, Wisconsin, where he engaged for some time in general work. Later he rented a farm in Milwaukee county, which he cultivated for four years and then he moved to Monroe county, Wisconsin, and bought a farm near the town of Tomah and lived there for about sixteen years, until his death, which occurred in the year 1880. Dorothy Sitz, his wife, lived the remainder of her life with her son, August, at New York Mills, Minnesota, she dying during the year 1898. August and Dorothy Sitz were devout members of the Evangelical Lutheran church. August Sitz, Sr., was a man of quiet and retiring disposition, preferring to live as a common citizen, rather than to hold public office or to take part in those things which would bring him before the public.

To August and Dorothy Sitz were born three children: Louisa, who married Christopher Liefke, and who died near Tomah, Wisconsin; August, the subject of this sketch, and Augusta, who married August Spangler, and lives near Brainerd, Minnesota, where Mr. Spangler is a moulder.

August J. Sitz, the subject of this sketch, was educated in the public schools of Tomah, Wisconsin, and following his school days he worked on a farm and then bought out the heirs of his father's farm and lived there

until the year 1883, when he came to the state of Minnesota and settled at New York Mills, near where he worked one season as foreman of a ditching gang who were employed on the construction of the Northern Pacific railway in that locality. Later in the year August J. Sitz built a store on Front street, of the town of New York Mills, where he engaged in the sale of implements and general hardware, at first carrying a small stock and later, with the progress of his business, adding to his line until, in the year 1915, Mr. Sitz disposed of his holdings for the sum of twelve thousand dollars, which was more than five times the value of his original stock. During his mercantile experience, August J. Sitz was able to see his business increase to the point where he found it necessary to erect a warehouse and to enlarge his store room to one having a fifty-foot front. When he disposed of his store, Mr. Sitz was the oldest merchant, in point of continuous business, in the town of New York Mills.

For the past four or five years August J. Sitz has been the occupant of the office of vice-president of the First State Bank of New York Mills, at the same time serving his community in several local offices, among which are those of councilman and village president. During a period of more than twenty-seven years this worthy citizen has served his locality in some of the various offices of honor and of trust, he at the present time being treasurer of the township. In political life, August J. Sitz has represented his district at a number of county and state conventions, where he has at all times been a credit to his constituents and to his county. He was county commissioner for four years.

During the year 1878 August J. Sitz was married to Sophia Pankow, who was born at Watertown, Wisconsin, the daughter of the Rev. Erdman Pankow and wife. The wife of Mr. Sitz died during the month of March, 1889, and on June 6, 1890, August Sitz was married, secondly, to Anna Pankow, who was a half-sister to the first Mrs. Sitz.

To the marriage of August J. and Sophia Sitz were born five children: Adolph, a lumber dealer of Grand Rapids, Minnesota; Luella, who lives at home; Rufus B., who lives at Duluth, Minnesota, where he is assistant buyer for the Marshall-Wells Hardware Company; Blandine, a school teacher of Walla Walla, Washington, and Alexander, who is a Lutheran clergyman of Tomahawk, Wisconsin.

August J. and Anna Sitz are the parents of three children: Arnold, a student of the Lutheran Seminary, of Wauwatosa, Wisconsin; Herbert, a student at New Ulm, Minnesota, and Erna, who lives at home.

August J. Sitz and his wife are active and esteemed members of the Lutheran church of Perham. In political affiliation, Mr. Sitz is a Republican.

L. H. D. SCHMIDT.

L. H. D. Schmidt is a native of Germany and was born in that country on November 15, 1861. He is the son of Deidrich and Caroline (Tearman) Schmidt, also natives of Germany. Deidrich Schmidt was a blacksmith by trade and followed that vocation until his death. L. H. D. Schmidt received his education in the schools of his native land and upon the completion of same engaged in the wagon-making business until his emigration to America in 1889. Upon his arrival in the United States he at once located in Minneapolis, Minnesota, where he again took up his trade for more than three months, removing thence to Perham, Otter Tail county, Minnesota. Imbued with an independent spirit, he opened a wagon-making shop and has continued in that line until the present time. In 1904 he erected the present shop, which is eighty by eighty feet and two stories in height at the front. His three sons, one other man and himself are constantly employed in the manufacture of wagons and bob-sleighs, completing about fifty of the former and from two hundred to five hundred of the latter each year.

In 1890 L. H. D. Schmidt was united in marriage to Emma Bauck, and to them have been born nine children, whose names follow: Dora, Louis H., Herman, Arthur, Martha, Luella, Theodore, Milton, Caroline. Louis, Herman and Arthur are connected with their father in the manufacturing business. Emma (Bauck) Schmidt is a native of Illinois and the daughter of John Bauck, a pioneer farmer of Otter Tail county, Minnesota, who still lives on the farm near Perham.

L. H. D. Schmidt and his wife are both members of the German Lutheran church and active in church affairs. In politics, Mr. Schmidt is a Republican.

HENRY SCHMIDT.

Henry Schmidt is one of ten children born to the union of Deidrich Schmidt and Caroline Tearman, both natives of Germany. Henry Schmidt was born on June 27, 1866, in Germany, and is indebted to the schools of his native land for the education which he received. Deidrich Schmidt was a blacksmith and followed that vocation until his death, having lived and died in Germany. Caroline (Tearman) Schmidt is still living.

Henry Schmidt was reared in the land of his nativity and became a blacksmith, assisting his father in that business until his emigration to America, in 1890. Upon his arrival in the United States, Henry Schmidt immediately proceeded to Perham, Otter Tail county, this state, and engaged in his former vocation, opening the blacksmith business which he has continued until the present time. In 1906 the present building of brick was erected.

In 1890 Henry Schmidt was united in marriage to Dora Brockman, and to them have been born eight children, whose names follow: Emma, Arnold, Robert, Richard, Edwin, Walter, Paul and Hilda. Dora (Brockman) Schmidt is a native of Germany. Both Henry Schmidt and his wife are members of the German Lutheran church and very active in its support. He is a respected citizen of the town of Perham, having devoted energy and thought to the solution of the community problems.

PER GUSTAV MATSON.

Successful farmer and stock raiser, well-known citizen of Otter Tail county, and a man who has had an important part in the development of Lida township and its resources, Per Gustav Matson, because of his helpful and useful life to the community, has attained a notable place among those men, who from the ranks of common citizenship as well as in public office, have done no small part to make the locality an advanced and prosperous community.

Per Gustav Matson was born in Westerbotten, Sweden, on March 14, 1807, the son of Mathias Olson and Maria Margareta (Nelson) Olson, both of whom spent their entire lives in Sweden, where Mathias Olson was a farmer and landowner. Mathias and Maria Olson were the parents of eighteen children, Maria Matilda, Bertha Louisa, Margareta Katherine, Elizabeth Sophia, Anna Christina, Charlotta Wilhelmina, Carl Magnus, Olaf, Eva Erika, Nils, Mathias, Johan, Clara Gustava, Erik, Anders Oscar, Per Gustav, and two other children who died in infancy.

Per Gustav Matson was educated in the public schools of Sweden, after which he came, in the year 1802, to America and located near Bertrand, Nebraska, where he bought eighty acres of land which he farmed until the year 1900, and then came to Otter Tail county, Minnesota, where he bought one hundred and thirty-one acres of land in Lida township, bordering the beautiful Lake Lida, a few years later adding forty more acres, a place which Mr. Matson has greatly improved and where he now lives, engaged in general agricultural pursuits.

During the year 1802, shortly before leaving his home in Sweden, Per Gustav Matson was married to Marie Ellena Sundleng, who was born in Sweden, the daughter of Nils Frederick and Charlotta Johana (Johnson) Sundleng, Nils Sundleng being a farmer in Sweden, his wife, Charlotta, being deceased. To the marriage of Per Gustav and Marie Ellena Matson have been born twelve children, Olga Maria, Alma Wilhelmina, Amy Augusta, Gustav Elmer (deceased), Edla Erika, Victor Carl Bernard, Verner Theodore, Gustav W. Alfred, Myrtle Lilian (deceased), Emil Algot Renhold, Ethel Lilian and Leonard Raymond. Per Gustav Matson and his

family are active members and workers in the Swedish Lutheran church of Lida township.

Per Gustav Matson has proved to be one of the best and most desirable citizens of Lida township, he being a man who has given much time and effort for the good of the community, not only during the time when he served his township most efficiently as a township supervisor, but in all matters having for their object the betterment of general conditions in the county and more especially Lida township.

ANTON B. EVAVOLD.

Anton B. Evavold is a native of Norway and was born on June 6, 1885. He is the son of Claus Evavold, who emigrated to America from Norway when Anton B. Evavold was a child of three years. Anton B. Evavold received his education in the schools of Otter Tail county, Minnesota, and has been reared on the home place, having assisted with the cultivation of the same until the present time. He is the sole owner and manager of one hundred and forty acres of well-improved land, which he devotes to general farming and stock raising, making a specialty of Shorthorn cattle.

In 1912 Anton B. Evavold was united in marriage to Minnie Lang, daughter of Nels A. Lang, and a native of Lund township, Douglas county, Minnesota. Anton B. Evavold and his wife are the parents of one child, Arnold Wilton McKay. They are active members in the Norwegian Lutheran Free church and lend their earnest support to this denomination. Anton B. Evavold was appointed to act as road supervisor and has served in that capacity for a period of two years, discharging the duties of that office with dispatch and efficiency.

M. J. DALY.

M. J. Daly holds a place of sincere regard in the hearts of his fellow citizens, as is evidenced by the positions of trust to which he has been elected. He is the son of M. F. and Mary (Malarky) Daly, both natives of Ireland, who emigrated to America in 1847. They located in New York City until 1856 and then removed to St. Paul, Minnesota, where M. F. Daly was employed as a bookkeeper. Some years later they removed to Carver county, Minnesota, where they both died. They were the parents of eight children.

M. J. Daly was born on March 13, 1861, in St. Paul, Minnesota, and his education was received in the public schools of Minneapolis. He was graduated from the Iowa State University in 1886, having studied law in that institution, and immediately began to practice law in Perham, Minne-

sota. During the first seven years of his practice he was associated with a Mr. Baxter, but has since been independent in his vocation. He is connected with the First National Bank in the capacity of vice-president, and served as county attorney from 1891 until 1899. He also served as state senator from 1899 until 1903. His fraternal affiliations are with the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks and the Knights of Pythias. Religiously, he is a devout member of the Roman Catholic church and a member of the Knights of Columbus.

In 1893 M. J. Daly was united in marriage to Emma Mohr, and to them have been born two children, whose names follow: M. J., Jr., and Lenora. Emma (Mohr) Daly is a native of Perham, Minnesota, and is also a member of the Roman Catholic church. M. J. Daly is a member of the Ancient Order of United Workmen, in which order he is held in high esteem.

ASBJORN ASLAKSEN.

Having lived in this vicinity for twenty-seven years, during which time Asbjorn Aslaksen has become a well-known farmer, he has come to be considered one of the substantial citizens of Pelican township. Although born in the southern part of Norway, he has thoroughly identified himself with the life of the community in which he has lived for many years. His birth took place on March 12, 1869, but two years later he was left an orphan by the death of his father, Aslak Asbjornson, whose wife, Ingeborg Eliason, came to America in 1889, one year after the subject of this sketch settled in Pelican Rapids. Both of Mr. Aslaksen's parents were born in Norway.

The subject of this sketch was the only child born to Mr. and Mrs. Aslaksen. The former, who served in the Norwegian army, became seriously ill during a military drill and for the two years which preceded his death, was a helpless invalid.

Asbjorn Aslaksen's school days in Norway were followed by a period during which he worked on his father's farm, and in 1888, influenced by the glowing reports of friends in America, he started out for the new country and arriving in Pelican Rapids, worked as a farm laborer for the following two years. In 1892 he became the owner of one hundred and sixty acres of land ten miles north of Pelican Rapids and to this he added other land until he had acquired three hundred and seventy acres. This property became his home until the fall of 1910, when he traded it for eighty acres in Pelican Rapids. His present home is a well-built modern dwelling. Although living in town he still gives his attention to grain farming and stock raising. In

the latter branch of industry he specializes in dairy and beef cattle, of which he raises mostly the Hereford breed.

In 1860 Asbjorn Aslaksen was married to Nettie Johnson, of Becker county, Minnesota. She came to this county with her parents, who entered a homestead claim near Cormorant about the year 1875. Her father was Nils Johnson, a native of Norway. The home life of Mr. and Mrs. Aslaksen was enhanced by the adoption of two children whom they took into their home and hearts as their very own. The children are Emma Engel and Arthur Nygaart.

Mr. and Mrs. Aslaksen are devoted members of the United Lutheran church, of which the former is secretary. He has held the office of secretary for fifteen years, both of the church here and at Grove Lake. He has also been assessor of Scambler township and was for eight years the treasurer of school district No. 39. These honors have been assumed by Mr. Aslaksen without solicitation on his part, for he has never aspired to be an office holder. Gifted with the ability to engage in continuous toil, and to concentrate all of his energies upon the task in hand, Mr. Aslaksen has made a success of life. He occupies a prominent place in the business and religious life of the community, while both he and his capable wife have made many warm friendships here.

ALBERT ELLWANGER.

Albert Ellwanger is a native of Clitherall township, Otter Tail county, this state, and his birth occurred on February 13, 1874. He is a brother of John and Mathias Ellwanger, who, for many years, owned the old home place together. The first agricultural venture of Albert Ellwanger was when the three boys, Albert, John and Mathias, purchased the home farm of their father and, together, cultivated it for many years, Albert finally selling his interest to John, and Mathias doing likewise. Albert Ellwanger then rented a farm in Eagle Lake township for a period of three years. In 1905 he purchased one hundred and thirty-eight acres of land in Eagle Lake township, Otter Tail county, and has continued to cultivate this place until the present time. He has made all of the improvements and put it under a fine state of cultivation. He has also erected all of the present buildings.

In 1901 Albert Ellwanger was united in marriage to Oliva Olson, daughter of Nels Olson, a native of Sweden and an early pioneer of Clitherall township, and they are the parents of seven children: Floyd, Clarence, Norris, Eveline, Vernie, Hazel and William. Oliva (Olson) Ellwanger is a sister of Alvin Olson, and has been a very material help to her husband in his effort to gain an honorable competency. They are devout members of the Norwegian Lutheran church of Ashby, Minnesota, and are

active workers for the advancement of that denomination. Albert Ellwanger is a good citizen and farmer, and is much liked by the people of his community.

W. E. THOMAS.

W. E. Thomas, one of the prominent business men of Otter Tail county, was born in Bloomington, Wisconsin, January 3, 1856, and is the son of Anson H. and Martha (Cooley) Thomas, natives of New York. His grandfather, John H. Thomas, was a native of New York, where he lived until he moved to Illinois in the early forties and engaged in farming. He later removed to Grant county, Wisconsin, where he purchased a farm near the village of Bloomington, and where he died in 1885. Anson H. Thomas was educated in the common schools after which he spent three years in the mining districts of California, having made the trip overland to that state with an ox-team train of gold seekers in 1849. He was moderately successful in his mining ventures, and on returning to Wisconsin he purchased an improved farm of one hundred and sixty acres, and also eighty acres of timber land. He came to Fergus Falls, Minnesota, in 1898, and died there in 1901, the wife and mother having died in 1869. They were the parents of seven children: Lucy E., W. E., Frank A., Jesse E., Lora E., Linda E. and Mabel M. all of whom, at this writing, are living.

W. E. Thomas was educated in the common schools of Grant county, Wisconsin, and in Pittsfield, Illinois. During his early life he was engaged in farming, having been reared on the farm; agriculture has always appealed to him. He came to Otter Tail county on October 20, 1878 bringing with him two hundred dollars in cash which he had earned working out by the month on a farm in Illinois. He located at Fergus Falls, and for a few years worked out by the month, then engaged in the flour and feed business in Fergus Falls, and continued in that business until 1887, when he sold out the business and came to Maine township, and built a water power dam across the Red river, where the little burg of Phelps has since been built. He then took in a partner, E. P. Adams, and together they built the Maine roller mills, known far and wide as the "Maine Mills." They started the mill in December, 1889, and milled under the firm name of Thomas Adams until June, 1894, when Mr. Thomas bought out Mr. Adams' interest in the property and has since carried on the business alone. He has built to and increased the capacity of the mill. He has enjoyed a good trade and has been most successful in the business.

On September 7, 1885, W. E. Thomas was married to Liona Phelps. She was a native of New York, having been born in that state on February 23, 1860, being the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. O. C. Phelps. Her father is

still living in Otter Tail county. Her mother passed away in December, 1913. Mrs. Thomas died on October 5, 1906. She was a good and true helpmate and helped him to bear the many burdens and hardships which he encountered during the stringent times while he was building, starting in as he did with but little cash or capital to work on. Mr. Thomas attributes his success to the help and encouragement she gave him during those trying times and which she continued to give throughout the rest of her life.

In the summer of 1908 Mr. Thomas tore out the old dam, which had begun to leak and cause some trouble, and built in its place a stone and concrete dam, and he now has one of the best water powers on the river. Aside from the water power and mill property Mr. Thomas has four good houses in Phelps which he has built and he owns one hundred and sixty acres of land near Phelps.

W. E. Thomas was married, secondly, to Ida C. Murk, January 26, 1910. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Murk, of Amor township.

Mr. Thomas is a member of Maine Camp No. 4116, Modern Woodmen of America, and has been venerable consul of that camp ever since its organization in 1896. He is also a member of the Royal Neighbors of America and of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows.

ANTON THOMPSON.

Anton Thompson, a prosperous attorney and the present county attorney of Otter Tail county, is a native of this county, where he was born on February 8, 1870, son of Bernt and Inga (Goldseath) Thompson, natives of Norway and farmers in Dane Prairie township, this county. Anton Thompson was reared on a farm in Dane Prairie township, and obtained his elementary education in the district schools of the township.

When Mr. Thompson was fifteen years old, he entered the seminary at Wilmar, Minnesota, and was later graduated from that institution. After teaching school for five years successfully in Otter Tail county, Mr. Thompson entered the University of Minnesota at Minneapolis, in 1896, and three years later was graduated from the law department with the degree of Bachelor of Laws. The year following his graduation, he engaged in the practice of his profession at Henning. Mr. Thompson still retains his office at Heming, although in 1908 he formed a partnership with Clifford L. Hilton, under the firm name of Hilton & Thompson, and has since been engaged in the practice of law at Fergus Falls.

Having been elected as county attorney of Otter Tail county in 1908, Mr. Thompson has held the office continuously for the past seven years. He has proved to be a very capable and trustworthy counselor of the law



ANTON THOMPSON



and is well versed in the decisions of all courts as well as the great body of common law, upon which our present statutory law is based.

In 1897 Anton Thompson was married to Ragnhild Vinje, daughter of Olof O. Vinje, of the town of St. Olaf, this county, and to this union seven children have been born, Marion B., Harriet G., Frances V., Innis M., Owen V., Anton R. and Helen M.

Mr. Thompson is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America, of the Elks and of the Sons of Norway. He and his family are members of the Lutheran church.

AMOS MARCKEL.

Amos Marckel is a representative citizen in the commercial and civic circles of his community and has always been interested in the progress of the town and county. He is the son of John L. and Maria Marckel, and his birth occurred on June 11, 1862, in Columbiana, Ohio. John L. Marckel was a farmer, and both he and his wife died when Amos Marckel was a very young child.

After completing his education, which was received in the common schools of Columbiana, Ohio, he entered the services of a hardware concern, as a clerk, and remained in their employ for a period of five years. In 1886 he removed to the town of Perham, Minnesota, and engaged in the hardware and implement business independently. The first store was located just three doors west of his present location and the business was purchased from A. E. Luedke. In 1895 he purchased the present site, containing an excellent brick structure. He has engaged in the lumber and automobile business in connection with his hardware and implement business, all of which he operated individually until 1914, when he incorporated the entire enterprise as The Marckel Company. His employees became the stockholders and he was elected as president. In 1906 a partnership was formed with A. H. Haut, and a business opened in Gackle, North Dakota, known as Haut & Marckel. They operate a store, similar to The Marckel Company. He also is the owner of a farm near Dead Lake, Minnesota, on which he breeds purebred Guernsey cattle. In 1913 he assisted in the organization of the Hall Hardware Company, of Minneapolis, Minnesota, and is vice-president and director of same. This company is engaged in the wholesale hardware business.

In 1888 Amos Marckel was united in marriage to Emma C. Coblenz, and they are the parents of one child, George E., who is now a student in the high school in Perham. Emma C. (Coblenz) Marckel is a native of Columbiana, Ohio. Both husband and wife are members of the Grace

Reformed church. The lodge affiliations of Amos Marckel are with the Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, and his membership consists of relations with the blue lodge of Perham, the chapter in Detroit, the commandery in Wadena, and the Shrine in St. Paul, Minnesota. He has served his community as mayor and village recorder.

OSCAR YOUNG.

The memory of the late Oscar Young long will be cherished in Amor township, this county, where for years he labored for the advancement of material conditions thereabout. Arriving in Otter Tail county in 1870, as the five-year-old son of a homesteader, Oscar Young became one of the most forceful citizens of Amor township, and at the time of his death, on February 14, 1906, he was the owner of a fine farm of four hundred acres, which he had helped to claim from the forest wilderness.

Oscar Young was born in Sweden on November 15, 1865, son of John N. Young, a Swedish farmer and carpenter, who came to America during the early childhood of Oscar, and after working on the railroad at that time being constructed in this region, entered a homestead claim in Amor township, this county, and there made his home. That was in the year 1870, Oscar Young being at that time but five years of age, and he retained a distinct memory of being carried a long distance on his father's back during the wearisome trip to this county from the nearest railroad point. John N. Young and Solomon Larson were homesteaders together, and during the time they were "prooving up" they lived in the same humble dwelling.

Reared on the homestead farm, Oscar Young grew up amid all the hardships attendant upon pioneer living, receiving such meager education as was afforded in the primitive schools of that day, his schooling having been obtained in district No. 60, and here he was a farmer all his life. After his marriage, in 1890, he moved to the farm in Amor township, where the rest of his life was spent, and which he greatly improved during his occupancy. In 1897 he built a commodious barn and in 1899 erected the comfortable dwelling in which his widow and children are now living. As he prospered in his agricultural ventures he added to his farm by additional purchase from time to time, until he became the owner of a farm of four hundred acres. In addition to his extensive farming interests, Mr. Young found time to engage actively in civic affairs and for a time was a member of the town board, being regarded as one of the influential men in that section of the county.

On May 24, 1890, Oscar Young was united in marriage to Mary Bjorgaard, who was born in Norway on May 19, 1866, daughter of John and Sophia (Erickson) Bjorgaard, and to this union six children were born,

Mabel, John, Leonard, Donald, Alphild and Edna, all of whom are living at home, aiding their widowed mother in the management of the farm and are making a fine success of their labors. Mrs. Young came to America alone in 1882, proceeding at once to Otter Tail county, where she joined her brothers, Christian and Oliver, who had come here some years before. In 1883 Mrs. Young's parents came to this county from Norway, bringing with them the other children of the family, John, Oscar and Emelie. The Bjorgaards, as were the Youngs, were members of the Swedish Lutheran church and all these children, as were the children of Mr. and Mrs. Young, were reared in the faith of that church.

The late Oscar Young was devoted to his family, and his death, in 1906, was a great loss to his loving wife and family of young children, as well as to the whole community, for he was a man who was doing well his part in the community in which he had established so excellent a home and he will not soon be forgotten there.

ANDREW G. MURK.

When Andrew G. Murk, now one of the most substantial farmers, as well as one of the best-known citizens of Amor township, this county, arrived in Otter Tail county, he bought a quarter of a section of land, paying for the same five dollars an acre. He proceeded to improve the same and cultivated it with such profit that he presently was able to enlarge his holdings, until now he is the owner of five hundred and eighty acres of fine land, the most of which is under excellent cultivation.

Andrew G. Murk was born in the kingdom of Sweden, July 13, 1856, youngest son of Gabriel and Magdalena (Carlson) Murk, who were the parents of six children, those besides the subject of this sketch being Albertina, Matilda, Oscar, Frank and John. Albertina and John are deceased. Gabriel Murk was born on January 20, 1813. For twenty-nine years he served his king as a soldier and was a participant in the arduous campaign which marked the war between Germany and Denmark years ago, and in 1879 came to America, his last days being spent in the home of his son, Andrew, in this county.

In October, 1887, Andrew G. Murk was united in marriage to Clara Josephine Gustafson, who also was born in Sweden, and to this union fourteen children have been born, Oscar, Anna, Ida, Hanna, Beda, Amanda, Hulda, Gilbert, Emily, Arvid, Harold, Rolla, Carl and Clara. Oscar and Hanna are deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Murk are members of the Swedish Lutheran church and their children have been raised in the faith of that church, the family being held in high esteem throughout the entire neighbor-

hood. Mr. Murk for years has taken an active part in public affairs in Amor township and for fifteen years was treasurer of the school board.

As noted above, Andrew G. Murk's start as a farmer in this county was on a farm of one hundred and sixty acres, for which he paid five dollars an acre. Since then he has increased his farm holdings until now he owns nearly six hundred acres of fine land, most of the improvements on which he has made himself, he having built the house and barn and numerous other substantial improvements. In addition to his general farming, Mr. Murk gives considerable attention to the raising of live stock, his Shorthorn cattle and Shropshire sheep showing an excellent strain. He is a good citizen and has many friends in Otter Tail county, all of whom hold him in the highest regard.

HERMAN GREFE.

Herman Grefe, born near Hanover, Germany, January 4, 1866, is one of the successful farmers of Otter Tail county, Minnesota. Herman Grefe, the father of the subject of this sketch, was born in Hanover, Germany, May 17, 1831. Herman Grefe, Sr., was married to Mary Clasen, who was born near Hanover, February 24, 1836, and died in August, 1889. The senior Herman Grefe received his education in the common schools of his native land. He never came to America and on the completion of his school work engaged in farming on the farm that his father had owned. The farm had been in the possession of the Grefe family for over two hundred years. Herman Grefe, Sr., was the father of the following children: Loise, Herman, Henry, Dick and William. Louise and William remained in Germany; Henry, deceased, came to America in 1882; Dick came to America in 1889, direct to Otter Tail county, and Herman came to America in the year 1887. William is an officer in the German army at the present time. He has seen active service, and has been returned home for surgical treatment.

John Henry Grefe, the father of Herman Grefe, Sr., was born in 1802 and died in 1877. He was an extensive landowner and a prosperous farmer in the community in which he lived. John Henry Grefe was an active and respected member of the German Lutheran church.

Herman Grefe, on his arrival in America in 1887, first worked in Kansas and later, in 1895 came to Otter Tail county, Minnesota, where he has since resided, with the exception of a short visit to his native land. On his return to the United States he came direct to Otter Tail county, where he bought a farm of two hundred acres in Otter Tail township, sections 10 and 11. He has added to his first purchase until he now has a well improved farm of three hundred acres.

Herman Grefe married Sophia Misegades, a native of Hanover, Ger-

many, in May, 1890. Mrs. Grefe was born in 1876 and came to this country early in life. Mr. and Mrs. Grefe are the parents of the following children: Katherine, Herman D., Rebecca, William and Lorine.

Herman Grefe and his wife have devoted much time and energy to the development of their farm. It was for the most part a wilderness of wild and undeveloped land when purchased by them, but by constant and patient labor they have seen their rough acres develop into a valuable tract. In the early part of their married life they built a new house and from time to time have added many substantial improvements, in the nature of outbuildings, barn and the telephone.

Mr. and Mrs. Grefe are members of the German Lutheran church and take an active part in the services. Mr. Grefe is active in the affairs of the community, being secretary and treasurer of the Farmers Society of Equity, he is secretary of the creamery that was established in 1905 with but forty patrons and under his wise and careful management they now have one hundred and thirty patrons. In 1915 the creamery paid out for butter fat to the farmers more than thirty-seven thousand dollars. The Farmers Society of Equity is an organization of farmers for the purpose of buying and selling. They devote most of their energy to shipping and selling of stock. During the past year more than thirty-nine thousand dollars worth of live stock has been shipped and sold by this organization. This society has handled in 1915, more than forty-eight thousand dollars for farmers around Otter Tail.

LEONARD JOHNSON.

Among the successful farmers of Compton township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, is Leonard Johnson, who owns two hundred and forty acres in this township.

Mr. Johnson is a native of Sweden, where he was born on June 2, 1857. His parents were John Anderson and Inga Lisa Magnuson, who were also natives of Sweden. Mr. Johnson's paternal grandfather was Andrew Anderson, a native of Sweden and a farmer in the old country. He was a member of the Lutheran church.

John Anderson, the father of Leonard Johnson, received military training in his native country, but farmed practically all of his life. For eleven years he was the overseer of a large tract of land. He died on November 29, 1890, and his wife in June, 1903. They were members of the Lutheran church and the parents of six children, of whom Andrew is deceased. Two of the children, Leonard, the subject of this sketch, and Gustav, came to America. The other children, John Gustaf, August and Matilda C., live in Sweden.

Leonard Johnson was educated in the public schools of his native land. He came to America shortly after his marriage on February 18, 1881. Mr. Johnson was accompanied to America by his wife. They landed in New York City on April 24, 1881, and came directly to Otter Tail county, Minnesota. Mr. Johnson purchased eighty acres of land in section 19, of Compton township. After living on the farm for twenty-one years, he has gradually increased its acreage until he now owns two hundred and forty acres. He paid six dollars and seventy-five cents an acre for the original tract of eighty acres, which consisted of wild land. Later he paid two thousand dollars for eighty acres which he purchased from his brother in 1899. He moved to the second farm two years later.

To the marriage of Leonard Johnson and Mary Anderson, there have been born eight children, all of whom are living, Alfrida O., Emma M., Selma J., John L., Gustav A., Hulda E., Alma W. and Oscar W.

In 1913 Mr. Johnson rebuilt his residence and in 1905 built a new barn. Leonard Johnson not only carries on general and mixed farming, but has made a specialty of stock raising, and has been very successful. Mr. and Mrs. Johnson and family are members of the Lutheran church in Compton township.

ANDERS J. NOREEN.

Anders J. Noreen, the proprietor of one hundred and eighty-five acres of good farming land in Compton township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, was born on June 11, 1861, in Sweden, and is the son of Jons Jansson and Margaret Anderson, who were also natives of Sweden. Mr. Noreen's grandfather, Jan Anderson, was also a native of Sweden and a farmer by occupation. He owned a small farm in his native land. He and his wife were members of the Lutheran church.

Mr. Noreen's father, Jons Jansson, was educated in the public schools of his native land and spent all of his life in Sweden. When a young man he received the customary military training. In his native land his name was written Trapp Jons Jansson. He died in September, 1905, and his wife in November, 1907. They were the parents of four children, of whom two, Nels and Anders J., came to America. Karin, the second child, is deceased. The eldest child, Trapp Jons Jansson, lives in Sweden.

Anders J. Noreen was educated in Sweden and, after finishing his education, came to America. He landed in New York City on May 26, 1882, and immediately thereafter proceeded to Iowa, where he remained for two months. He then came to Otter Tail county, Minnesota, and for two years worked upon neighboring farms. At the end of two years Mr. Noreen was able to purchase sixty five acres of land in section 21, of Compton township.

He has added to this original farm until he now has one hundred and eighty-five acres. In 1886 Mr. Noreen built his first house. His original farm was purchased from the railroad company and most of it has been cleared at the present time. Mr. Noreen has live stock on the farm and has been successful, measured by the standard of the community in which he lives.

In 1886 Anders J. Noreen was married to Anna Johnson, a native of Sweden, and to them have been born six children, all of whom are living and are unmarried. The names of the children in the order of their births are as follow: Fred William, George Henry, Ruth Emelia, Elsie Josephine, Ellen Augusta and Sophia Magdeline.

Mr. and Mrs. Anders J. Noreen and family are members of the Mission church and are active in church work. Mr. Noreen is chairman of the town board and has served as chairman for six years. He is a prominent citizen of Compton township and a man who wields a tremendous influence in behalf of worthy public enterprises.

VERNON STEDMAN BEMUS.

Vernon S. Bemus, a prosperous farmer of Compton township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, who owns a most attractive farm in the community where he lives and whose buildings are all practically new, both the house and barn having been erected in 1914, is a native of Dodge county, Minnesota, born on October 22, 1860.

Mr. Bemus is the son of William and Elizabeth (Stedman) Bemus, natives of Clay county, New York, and Virginia, respectively. Mr. Bemus's father died in 1901 at the age of eighty-one. The father of William Bemus was a native of England, who, during the later years of his life, immigrated to America and settled in New York state. The Bemus family were farmers by occupation and attended the Methodist church.

The late William Bemus was a carpenter and contractor until 1860, when he moved to Dodge county, Minnesota. After working at his trade in Dodge county for one and one-half years, he took a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres in Dodge county and lived upon this farm until his death. He attended the Methodist church. His wife died in April, 1908. They were the parents of nine children, all of whom are living, George W., Cora, Luella May, Vernon S., Frank E., Florence E., Henry C., Eva and Alva A.

Vernon S. Bemus received a good common-school education in the public schools of Dodge county, Minnesota. After his first marriage, Mr. Bemus lived in Dodge county, Minnesota, for nine years, renting land for a time. Finally, he purchased two hundred acres, which he sold when he came to Otter Tail county on March 1, 1912. At this time Mr. Bemus pur-

chased two hundred and forty acres, but sold it in the fall of 1914 and purchased one hundred and sixty acres in the farm where he now lives and eighty acres for his son, Harold. The barn on Mr. Bemus's place, which he erected in 1914, is thirty-two by sixty feet. Mr. Bemus is one of the enterprising farmers of this section, and is one of the foremost stock raisers of Otter Tail county, where he owns and operates "Fair View Stock Farm," situated two miles east of the town of Deer Creek.

Vernon S. Bemus has been twice married. He was first married on December 1, 1881, to Carrie May Baldwin, who died on February 14, 1890. By this marriage, there was born one son, Percy W. Mr. Bemus was married, secondly, on November 18, 1892, to Emma Leibold, and to them has been born one child, Harold Earl, who married Mildred Arbuckle and lives in Otter Tail county.

Mr. Bemus is among the leading farmers and stockmen of Otter Tail county and is popular in the community where he lives.

ANDY VEDEN.

Andy Veden, who owns two hundred and twenty acres of fine farming land, all of which is well improved and which is situated in Compton township, and who is the president of the Deer Creek Co-operative Shipping Association, which did a business amounting to ninety-six hundred dollars in 1914, is a native of Otter Tail county, born here on November 6, 1874.

Mr. Veden is the son of Charles and Caroline (Johnson) Veden, both of whom were born in Sweden, the former in 1833. Charles Veden came to America before his marriage. He located in Chisago county, Minnesota, where he owned eighty acres of land. Some time after the Civil War he sold the farm and moved to Parkers prairie, Otter Tail county, pre-empting one hundred and sixty acres of land at Horse Head lake. He lived on this farm until 1877, when he sold out and came to Compton township. Here he pre-empted one hundred and sixty acres of land in section 4, and here lived until his death. He served three years in the Civil War, as a private in the Third Regiment, Minnesota Volunteer Infantry. Mr. Veden's father was a member of the Lutheran church and one of the organizers of the church in Compton township. He served as constable of his township for twenty-six years. He died in November, 1913, and his wife in June, 1914. They were the parents of seven children, two of whom, Theresa and Corena, are deceased. The living children are Altor, John, Andy, Elot and Herbert.

Andy Veden was educated in the public schools of Compton township and has been engaged in farming all of his life. He has lived on the farm, which he now occupies, for twenty years. In the beginning Mr. Veden purchased one hundred and twenty acres of land, most of which was wild prairie.

He now owns two hundred and twenty acres, all of which is in one body. In 1913 Mr. Veden built a splendid house and in 1907 a large barn.

On June 24, 1895, Andy Veden was married to Charlotte Ingwald, who was born in Sweden and who is the daughter of Swan Ingwald. Mr. and Mrs. Veden have seven children, all of whom are at home, Eleonora, Delia, Clarence, Lilly, Charles, Mable, and Donald.

Mr. and Mrs. Andy Veden are members of the Lutheran church and take an active interest in church work. Mr. Veden served fifteen years as constable of Compton township, but is no longer filling this position. He also served as assessor of Compton township for seven years and served seven years as clerk of school district No. 94.

ANDREW A. PETERSON.

Andrew A. Peterson, a prosperous farmer of Eagle Lake township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, was born in Sweden, September 6, 1860, the son of Andrew and Cagse Peterson, who were also natives of Sweden. Mr. Peterson's father was a farmer in his native land and was engaged in agricultural pursuits until he came to America in 1867. During the first two and one-half years of his residence in America, he was employed in the copper mines of Michigan. Subsequently, he immigrated to Missouri and, because of ill health, moved from Missouri to Iowa and, at the time of his arrival in Iowa, had only about fifty cents. In the spring of 1874 he came to Eagle Lake township, Otter Tail county, and homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of land, to which he added until he owned two hundred and forty acres before his death. He had a hard struggle to make a success in life, but he did succeed in a large measure and, at his death, left his family well provided with all of the comforts of life. Andrew and Cagse Peterson were the parents of five children, Andrew A., John, Peter, Magnus and Daniel. The late Andrew Peterson was a member of the Swedish Lutheran church, and was identified with the Republican party.

Andrew A. Peterson was educated in the common schools of Eagle Lake township and, until he was twenty-three years old, was employed on his father's farm. In 1883 he bought one hundred and sixty acres of land, where he now lives and, the next year, moved to the farm. Mr. Peterson is engaged in general farming and stock raising. Most of the improvements which are to be seen on the farm today have been put here by Mr. Peterson's own hand. He has erected all of the buildings and practically all of the fences and installed most of the drainage.

In 1883 Andrew A. Peterson was married to Kate Peterson, and to them have been born four children, Alvin J., Oscar L., Vilde and Phoebe. Mr. Peterson has departed somewhat from the political ways of his

father. Andrew A. Peterson is identified with the Democratic party, while his father was a Republican. Mr. Peterson has served as chairman of the township board as supervisor and as constable. The Peterson family are members of the Swedish Lutheran church.

Andrew A. Peterson is one of the most hustling farmers of Otter Tail county and has a variety of interests aside from his farm. He is a director in the Battle Lake Telephone Company, a director in the Melby State Bank, a director in the Melby Farmers Elevator and a director in the Melby Live Stock Shipping Association. All of these various interests demand a great deal of his time. He is a man of engaging personality and extremely popular in the county where he lives.

OLE O. AUNE.

Among the self-made citizens of Sverdrup township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, and among its successful farmers, is Ole O. Aune, who was born on December 11, 1836, in Norway, the son of Ole O. Aune, Sr., who lived and died in his native land.

Mr. Aune was educated in Norway and immigrated to La Crosse, Wisconsin, in 1869. Prior to coming to America, he had been engaged in ship-building in his native land. After coming to this country he worked on the railroad in Huston county, Wisconsin, for a time and then went to Eau Claire, Wisconsin, where he worked in a saw-mill. Later he worked in the pine regions of Wisconsin and, during the summer of 1870, worked in the mills on the river. He was taken sick in the fall of 1870 and in February of the following year, returned to work in the mills. In May, 1871, Mr. Aune set out for Minnesota. One of his companions purchased an ox team at St. Peter, Minnesota, and met Mr. Aune at Willmar, Minnesota, from which place the two made the trip to Fort Abercrombie, North Dakota. They moved to a place called Georgetown and then turned east and followed the Buffalo river to where the city of Hawley now stands. Here they built a log cabin, shortly after June, 1871. After remaining at this place until the spring of 1872 they came to Fergus Falls, which at that time was a small village.

Shortly afterward, Mr. Aune located on a farm of one hundred and forty-four acres, where he now lives. During the next few years, he was busily engaged in clearing the land and in making miscellaneous improvements. He is a general farmer and stockman and, in addition to his farming interests, owns stock in the elevator and in a store and creamery at Underwood.

In 1888, Ole O. Aune returned to Norway and was there married to Gertrude Halgunset, who was born on January 12, 1860, in Norway. They

have been the parents of two sons, Ole O., Jr., who was born on May 26, 1890, and who was educated in the schools of Otter Tail county, is a farmer and lives at home with his parents, and John O., born on November 30, 1893, was also educated in the public schools and lives at home on the farm.

Mr. and Mrs. Ole O. Aune, Sr., are Lutherans. Mr. Aune is a Republican in politics, but in late years has not been especially interested in politics and has taken no part in it. He is a good farmer and has been successful as a result of his own personal effort.

JOHN J. WOLD.

John J. Wold, a well-to-do farmer and business man of Sverdrup township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, was born in Norway, January 28, 1854. Mr. Wold is a son of Jens and Johanna (Swenson) Wold, both of whom were natives of Norway. Mr. Wold's father was born in 1820, and his mother in the same year. They were married in Norway, and in 1868 they emigrated to America, locating first in Goodhue county, Minnesota. In 1872 they made the journey by ox team from Goodhue to Otter Tail county. Here they homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of land, where their son, John J., now lives. They cleared and improved this farm and made it their home the rest of their lives. Mr. Wold's father died in 1891, and his mother in 1903. They were earnest and devoted members of the Lutheran church, and were active in religious matters in this township in the early days. Of the six children born to Jens Wold and wife, Edward, the eldest, is deceased. The other children in the order of their birth are as follow: Sophia, John J., Elizabeth, Ole and Theodore, all of whom are living.

John J. Wold received his education in the public schools of Norway, and also attended the schools in Goodhue county, Minnesota, after coming to this country. When Mr. Wold was eighteen years of age, he came to Sverdrup township, Otter Tail county, with his parents, and has lived continuously upon the farm where he now resides since coming to the county. After his father's death, in 1891, John J. Wold purchased the old homestead farm, and built thereon a fine residence. He has also made many other substantial improvements on the farm and now has one of the most desirable tracts of land in this part of Otter Tail county. He is a general farmer and stockman.

On November 30, 1892, John J. Wold was married to Karen Thronson, who was born in Norway, November 15, 1864, and whose parents never left their native land. To this union have been born three children: Edwin, born on August 25, 1893, was educated in the public schools and lives at home with his parents; Clara Gelena, born on February 6, 1897, was also a student in the public schools of her home township, and is living at home;

Margaret Johanna, born on May 20, 1904, is a student in the schools of her home township.

Mr. Wold is a stockholder in the Underwood Co-operative Creamery Company, and in the co-operative mercantile store at Underwood, as well as the Farmers Elevator and Shipping Association, at Underwood.

Politically, Mr. Wold is identified with the Prohibition party. He has served as supervisor of Sverdrup township, and as treasurer of the school board for seventeen years. Mr. and Mrs. John J. Wold and family are all very active members of the Lutheran church in this township. They are substantial and successful farmers, and well-known and valued citizens.

DAVID L. ROWE.

David L. Rowe, who is well-known in Everts township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, as a successful farmer and breeder of Holstein cattle and who owns a splendid farm of two hundred and forty acres located in sections 9 and 10, is a native of Norway, where he was born on February 10, 1848.

Mr. Rowe is the son of Lars and Kari (Groethe) Rowe, both of whom were born in Norway, the former in 1814 and the latter in 1815. They came to Dodge county, Wisconsin, in 1852, and three years later moved to Portage county, Wisconsin. Later they moved to Waupaca county and purchased a farm of eighty acres, to which they added forty acres. Mr. Rowe's father died in Waupaca county in 1892 and his wife in 1898. They were the parents of three children, David L., Andrew L. and Olena. Mr. Rowe's mother had been previously married and by this first marriage, had three children, Nels, Susan and Kisti. The Rowes left Bergen, Norway, on May 17, 1852, and were ten weeks on the voyage from Norway to America.

David L. Rowe was four years old when the family arrived in Wisconsin. He was educated in the public schools of that state and, when twenty-five years old, in 1873, moved to Mower county, Minnesota, where he acquired a farm and where he lived until 1903, when he moved to South Dakota. After living in South Dakota for eight years, Mr. Rowe immigrated to Otter Tail county and purchased a farm of two hundred and forty acres in sections 9 and 10, Everts township. He is a general farmer and stock man and a breeder of Holstein cattle.

In 1877 Mr. Rowe was married in Mower county, Minnesota, to Kisti Monson, who was born on January 13, 1851, in Norway, and who is the daughter of Mons O. and Kari (Tomjum) Monson. Mrs. Rowe's parents came to Wisconsin in 1861, but the same year immigrated to Union county, South Dakota. From Union county, the family traveled overland by ox team to Iowa. Later they settled in Mower county, Minnesota, purchasing

one hundred and twenty acres of land, where Mrs. Rowe's father died. Her brother later sold the farm and moved to Union county, South Dakota, and now owns the farm which his father had owned in that county. Mrs. Rowe's mother died in South Dakota in 1906.

Mr. and Mrs. David L. Rowe have been the parents of eight children, Lars, who is deceased; Clara, who is the wife of Leif Swennumson and has three children, Francis, David and Robert; Matthew, who was born on September 29, 1881, in Mitchell county, Iowa, where his parents lived for three years, was educated in the public schools and is now a farmer, living at home with his parents; Lawrence, born on April 14, 1883, in Mitchell county, Iowa, was also educated in the public schools and the Leroy high school and immigrated to Hettinger county, North Dakota, where he took up a claim and farmed for two years, now being clerk of Everts township, to which office he was elected in 1913; Olene, who is the wife of Raymond Hendrix, of Elk Point, South Dakota, has two children, Margaret and Raiman Rowe; Norman, who lives at Devon, Montana, has a claim of one hundred and sixty acres in that state and is unmarried; Carl Edward, who died at the age of three years, and Esther, who lives at home.

OLE BERG.

Ole Berg, a very successful farmer, who owns two hundred acres of land in Compton township, besides one hundred and sixty acres in Canada, is a native of Sweden, his birth having occurred in that country on June 9, 1856.

Mr. Berg's parents were Ole Olson and Margaret Anderson, both natives of Sweden. His grandfather was Ole Anderson, a farmer by occupation and a prominent member of the Lutheran church in his native country. In 1887 Ole Olson came to America, and after landing at Halifax, came direct to Otter Tail county, Minnesota. Here he purchased one hundred and twenty acres of land in sections 23 and 28, of Compton township, and took up farming. He is now living with his son, Ole Berg, at the advanced age of eighty-nine years. His wife died some years ago. He is a devout member of the Lutheran church, and in politics is a Republican.

Ole Berg, the only child of his parents who grew to maturity, was educated in the schools of Compton township, and when old enough took up farming on his father's place, and in this vocation has been very successful, and besides having a splendid farm, it is improved to the minutest detail. The buildings are all well painted and are kept in a good state of repair. In 1911 Mr. Berg built a barn sixty by thirty-two feet.

In 1885 Ole Berg was married to Maggie Anderson, and to this union have been born four children, Maggie, Anie, Andrew and Charles, all of

whom are unmarried and who live at home with their parents. Mr. Berg and family are earnest and faithful members of the Lutheran church, and for many years have been active in church work. For the past five years Mr. Berg has been treasurer of the local congregation. Aside from his interests in his church, Mr. Berg's whole interests are centered in his family and in his farm. He has a host of friends in this neighborhood.

CHARLEY EKLUND.

Charley Eklund, another well known and enterprising farmer of Nidaros township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, is a native of Sweden, where he was born on July 7, 1864.

Mr. Eklund is the son of Ole and Hannah (Johnson) Eklund, both of whom were born in Sweden. Mr. Eklund's father was born on January 22, 1836, and his mother on July 19, 1834. They were married in Sweden and, after some years, Mr. Eklund's father came to America, settling at Litchfield in 1868. The family came to America the next year and settled with the father at Litchfield. In the fall of 1870, the family moved to Clitherall township, Otter Tail county, settling on a homestead farm in section 32. This farm had been pre-empted in 1868. Mr. Eklund's father improved the land and erected excellent buildings. He died on the farm on March 11, 1910, and his widow is still living on the old homestead. He was one of the first members of the Swedish Lutheran church, known as the Eagle Lake church. By his marriage to Hannah Jsakson, there were born seven children, one of whom, Elizabeth, is deceased. The living children are, John, Charley, the subject of this sketch, Inga, Sophia, Helma and Otto. The last named lives on the old homestead.

Charley Eklund was five years old when he accompanied his mother and the remainder of the family to America. He lived with his parents and attended the public schools for a number of years, after which he took up farming. From his father, who had purchased four hundred acres of railroad land in Nidaros township, Mr. Eklund obtained one hundred and sixty acres in section 19, and has since added to that original farm until he now owns two hundred and forty acres. He also owns forty acres in section 29. Mr. Eklund has forty-five acres in Clitherall township. In 1885 he moved to the farm located in section 19, where he now lives. He has a splendid home situated in a pretty grove and all of the buildings on this farm are thoroughly modern. Mr. Eklund is a general farmer and stockman. When the family moved to Otter Tail county from Benson, Minnesota, the trip was made with an ox team and immediately upon their arrival, a sod house was built. For some time the family lived in this house, which had only a clay floor.

On September 6, 1885, Charley Eklund was married to Emma Johnson, who was born in Sweden, September 6, 1865, and who is the daughter of Carl Peter and Christine (Johnson) Johnson. Mrs. Eklund's parents were both born in Sweden, her father on July 27, 1839, and her mother on August 24, 1844. They came to Meeker county, Minnesota, in 1870, and the next year moved to Otter Tail county, making the journey with an ox team. They took a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres in Leaf Mountain township and here Mrs. Eklund's father died on February 3, 1890. Her mother is still living. They were the parents of fourteen children, Emma Natolia, Hilda Ulrike, deceased; Elof William, Janni Amanda, Henrik Wieter, Hilma Ulrika, Ida Theresa, deceased; Anton Frittfjof, Addvingd Wilton, Alma Victoria, Elena Alvia, Clifford Livingston, Hatfield and Cora Saraphena.

Mr. and Mrs. Charley Eklund have seven children, Alma Liventina; Florence Georginia, the wife of William Denoon, has one child, Kenneth Eklund Denoon; Edith Haire; Lydia Elizabeth; Willie Luther Natanael; Mardel Adina, and Judith Eleanora.

Mr. and Mrs. Eklund and family belong to the Eagle Lake Swedish Lutheran church. Mr. Eklund has served as a member of the school board in Nidaros township and has been otherwise prominent in local affairs. He has a host of friends in the township where he lives.

ERICK E. BOEN.

One of the elder citizens and one of the highly respected farmers of Aurdal township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, is Erick E. Boen, who was born on October 13, 1853, in Norway.

Mr. Boen is the son of Erick T. and Ingeborg (Bjorgo) Boen, who were natives of Norway and who, after coming to America, homesteaded eighty acres of land in section 27, of Aurdal township. Mr. Boen's father died in 1866 and his mother three years previously in 1893. They had a family of nine children, three of the sons are living and three of the daughters.

Erick E. Boen was educated in Norway. Upon his arrival in America in 1868, he settled in Moore county, Minnesota, but on October 13, 1871, came to Fergus Falls, Minnesota, and, for a year, was engaged in trapping and shooting. Mr. Boen did not enjoy the assistance of wealthy relatives or influential friends, but has made his own way in the world. In 1873 he bought one hundred and sixty acres of internal improvement land in this county and it is upon this farm that Mr. Boen now lives. He has cleared the land and erected very fine buildings upon it.

In 1878 Erick E. Boen was married to Christina Halverson, who was born in 1860 in Wisconsin and who is the daughter of Gutron and Christie

Halverson, both of whom were natives of Norway. Mrs. Boen's parents came to America in the early fifties. In 1871 they homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of land. Mrs. Boen's father died at the age of seventy-three years, but her mother lived to be ninety-four and one-half years old.

Mr. and Mrs. Erick E. Boen have been the parents of eight children, as follow: Edith, the wife of Sigval Johnson; Clara; Ida, the wife of John Helden; Anne, who died in infancy; one who died unnamed; Edmund, who lives at home with his parents; Gustav, who married Ida Onstad, of Sverdrup township, and Mabel, who lives at home.

Mr. and Mrs. Boen and family are members of the Lutheran church. Mr. Boen has held practically all of the township offices except that of justice of the peace and township clerk.

JORGEN G. VIGEN, M. D.

The scion of a distinguished Norwegian family, Dr. Jorgen G. Vigen, is a well-known and successful physician of long standing at Fergus Falls, this county. He was born on September 20, 1864, at Selbu, Trondhjem, Norway, a picturesque town situated on Lake Selbu, which is twenty miles in length and seven and one-half miles long. There is a small island in the lake composed mostly of towering rocks and an old fort, where King Sverre and his followers were wont to defend themselves one thousand years ago from his enemies. It was within a stone's throw of this historic old battlement that Doctor Vigen was born. His parents, Gunder and Sigrid (Gulseth) Vigen, were natives of Norway, both members of old and prominent families there. Doctor Vigen's grandmother's brother, Mr. Norby, was a distinguished citizen of Norway many years ago. He was a member of the Storting, which is the highest legislative body in the country.

In 1869 Jorgen G. Vigen, being then four years of age, came with his parents to America, the journey being made via Quebec. The family settled at Wanamingo, in Goodhue county, this state, where the father purchased forty acres of land and engaged in farming until 1883, in which year he moved to New Solum, in Marshall county, and there he homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres and lived until his wife and daughter died, after which he rented the home farm and retired from the active life of the farm.

Educated in the Red Wing Seminary at Red Wing, Minnesota, Jorgen G. Vigen later attended the high school at St. Paul and was graduated with the class of 1891. Subsequently, he took a medical course of three years at the University of Minnesota and was graduated in 1894. After serving as an interne for one year in the city hospital in St. Paul, he went to Dawson, Lac qui Parle county, this state, and there began the practice of medicine. The field, however, was too small and the chances for advancement

were too uncertain and in July, 1896, Doctor Vigen located at Fergus Falls, this county, where he is still engaged in the active practice of his profession and where he has built up a lucrative business. One of the honors which the people of Otter Tail county have bestowed upon Doctor Vigen is that of coroner of the county, in which office he is serving his third term. He also was city physician and health officer for several years.

By his marriage to Martha Bartelson, the daughter of Gunder and Bertha Bartelson, Doctor Vigen has two children, Harold D. and James H., both of whom live at home with their parents.

Dr. Vigen is a member of the Park Region Medical Society, the Minnesota State Medical Association and the American Medical Association. Doctor Vigen not only was well trained for his profession, but he has ever since his college days been a deep and thoughtful student of the latest developments in medicine and surgery, among his post-graduate studies having been a course of five months in the great medical school at Berlin, where he studied diseases of the stomach and intestines, and this, in a large measure, accounts for his splendid success. He is also a man of pleasing and agreeable personality and is popular not only as a physician, but as a man among his fellow townsmen.

ANDREW TWETEN.

Andrew Tweten, a successful farmer and stock man of Everts township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, was born in Dane county, Wisconsin, September 12, 1860. Mr. Tweten is a son of Ole and Karen Tweten, both of whom were natives of Norway, the former born in 1812. Mr. Tweten's father came to America and settled in Dane county, Wisconsin, in 1839. The voyage occupied eighteen weeks from Norway to America, coming over in one of the old-fashioned sailing vessels. He was married in Dane county, Wisconsin, and there his wife died in 1870, at the age of about forty years, leaving seven children, Julia, Ole, Kare, deceased; Engbret, Andrew, Erick and Johannes. In 1874 the family moved to Everts township, Otter Tail county, and purchased a farm of one hundred and eighty-three acres, and here Mr. Tweten's father died on January 7, 1900.

Andrew Tweten was reared on his father's old homestead farm in Dane county, Wisconsin, and on the farm in Otter Tail county. He remained with his father on the old home farm until his marriage in 1887, and now owns the old farm.

In 1887 Mr. Tweten was married to Sena Ledel, who was born in 1860 in Dane county, Wisconsin, and who is a daughter of John and Mary Ledel, both of whom were natives of Norway and early settlers in Dane county.

Wisconsin. Subsequently, however, they emigrated to Everts township, Otter Tail county, where Mrs. Tweten's father died in 1915, at the age of seventy-eight years. Mrs. Tweten's mother died in Everts township several years ago.

Andrew Tweten and wife are the parents of eight children as follow: Ando, who lives at home; Olger J., Thorfin, Warner, Cora, Geneva, Lillian and Irene.

Mr. Tweten and his family are all earnest and faithful members of the Lutheran church. Mr. Tweten has never been active in politics, but has devoted his energies and his time rather to his chosen vocation, in which he has been very successful.

BENJAMIN F. YOUNG.

Prominent as a farmer and dairyman in Henning, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, was Benjamin F. Young, a well-known citizen of the township and a native of Sibley county, Minnesota, where he was born on December 10, 1857. Mr. Young was the son of Benjamin F., Sr., and Polly (Snyder) Young.

Mr. Young's parents were both natives of Pennsylvania, his father being born on August 24, 1830. His parents came to Sibley county, Minnesota, in 1855, and a little while thereafter pre-empted one hundred and sixty acres of land. There Mr. Young's father now resides. His wife died on April 3, 1915, at the age of eighty-four years. They were the parents of eight children, of whom four, John Quincy, the eldest, Ella, Benjamin F. and Emma, are deceased. The other children are Harry, Charles, Anna and William.

Benjamin F. Young was reared in Sibley county, Minnesota, except four years which he spent in Pennsylvania, where his parents lived before they moved to Minnesota. He was educated in the public schools of this state and was always engaged in farming. On May 28, 1880, Mr. Young came to Henning township and took a homestead of one hundred and twenty acres of land in section 6. He subsequently added forty acres to the farm and in all owned one hundred and sixty acres. Mr. Young made a specialty of keeping dairy cattle and had about twenty head of cows. He was also a general farmer and stockman.

On January 17, 1882, Benjamin F. Young was married to Mary E. Bones, who was born in the state of Wisconsin on May 3, 1863, and who is the daughter of William and Martha Bones. They came from Wisconsin to Sibley county, Minnesota, and both died in this county. Mr. and Mrs. Benjamin F. Young were the parents of six children, of whom one,

an infant daughter, is deceased. The living children are, William, Laura, Lester, Jesse and Walter.

Mr. Young had a well-improved and fertile farm. He erected all of the buildings which now stand on the farm and they are kept well painted and in first-class state of repair. He was a progressive citizen who believed in enjoying all of the comforts which are available to people who live in the country.

Benjamin F. Young was clerk of the local school board. Although he never took an active part in politics and never aspired to political office, he was a man of wide influence in the community where he lived, and especially in matters pertaining to agriculture. He enjoyed the confidence of a host of friends in his home neighborhood. Benjamin F. Young died suddenly of apoplexy, on August 12, 1915.

LARS OLSON.

Lars Olson, a prosperous farmer of Henning township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, was born in Olmstead county, Minnesota, June 1, 1858. He is a son of Ole and Kari Olson, both of whom were natives of Norway, the former of whom was born on November 16, 1816, and the latter born August 14, 1821. Mr. Olson's parents came to the United States from Norway in 1847, locating first in Wisconsin. Later they moved to Iowa, and in 1855 came to Olmstead county, Minnesota, where they homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of land. On this land more than three hundred Indians were at one time encamped. They gradually added to this original tract until at one time the family had more than two hundred acres of land, and it was on this farm that Mr. Olson's father died on September 20, 1899. His mother had passed away more than a quarter of a century previously, August 3, 1872. Ole Olson and wife were the parents of seven children, of whom only three, Thomas, Olaus and Lars, are living. The deceased children are Ingeborg, Halvor, Helge and Helena.

Lars Olson received his education principally in the schools of Olmstead county, Minnesota, and for a time was a student in the Benson high school, and also spent one term at St. Olaf's College, Northfield, Minnesota. He was reared to the life of a farmer, and in 1884 came to Otter Tail county, purchasing forty acres of land in section 17, of Henning township. At this time he also owned an eighty-acre farm in section 10 of the same township. He disposed of this land, however, and purchased one hundred and sixty acres in Foldsen township, but for the past seven years has lived in Henning township on a farm which is situated in section 17.

On April 10, 1887, Lars Olson was married to Carrie Grovdal, who was born in Norway in 1866, and who is a daughter of Hans and Anne

Grovdal. Mrs. Olson's parents came to Dodge county, Minnesota, in 1876, and here her father died in 1895, while her mother died in Otter Tail county three years later in 1898.

Mr. and Mrs. Lars Olson are the parents of seven children, of whom one, Lawrence, is deceased. The living children are Oscar, Carl, Emma, Harris, Edwin and Lillian.

Mr. Olson and family are earnest members of the United Lutheran church, in which they take an active interest. Mr. Olson has served his township as assessor for seven years, holding that important office at the present time.

ORRIN H. VARGASON.

Orrin H. Vargason, who is a native of Iowa, but who owns a splendid farm of one hundred and sixty acres in Inman township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, was born on June 19, 1883.

Mr. Vargason is the son of Charles H. and Orena (Curtis) Vargason, both of whom are natives of Iowa. Charles H. Vargason was born in Buchanan county, Iowa, May 28, 1859, and his wife, who before her marriage, was Orena Curtis, was born in Buchanan county, Iowa, March 3, 1865. They were married on June 17, 1882.

Charles H. Vargason was the son of Charles Vargason, a native of Towanda, Bradford county, Pennsylvania, and the latter was born on May 27, 1836. He was married to Cordelia Merrill, a native of New York state, who was born on June 14, 1838. She was a daughter of R. G. Merrill, who was a soldier in the Civil War, a member of the Third Iowa Cavalry and who owned a farm of eighty acres in Buchanan county, Iowa. R. G. Merrill, after serving about one year in the army, returned to his home, was taken ill and died shortly afterwards. Charles Vargason was the son of Hiram Vargason, a native of Towanda, Pennsylvania. Hiram Vargason was the son of Henry Vargason, a native of Wales, who, after coming to America, settled in Pennsylvania and later moved to Iowa. Hiram Vargason was a farmer by occupation and an active anti-slavery advocate. He married Elizabeth Dalton, and, after his marriage, farmed in Pennsylvania for a time. Later he moved to Michigan and, after a few years' residence in that state, moved to Wisconsin. Still later he moved to Iowa and settled in Buchanan county, where he owned one hundred and twenty acres of land.

Charles Vargason, the father of Charles H. and the grandfather of Orrin H., was educated in the common schools and was a farmer all of his life. He died on November 2, 1859, when his son, Charles H., was only five months old. He was a member of the Methodist Episcopal church. After his death, his wife remained in the Hawkeye state. Charles H. Var-

gason was educated in the common schools and, from his earliest years, was a young man of very studious habits. He spent a great many of his nights in patient and unremitting study. After his marriage in 1882 to Orena Curtis, he located on a farm in Buchanan county, Iowa, but sold out and moved to Otter Tail county, purchasing land in section 10, where J. A. Allen later lived. After three years, however, he sold the farm and exchanged for a farm of one hundred and twenty acres, which he now owns. Mr. Vargason has erected all of the buildings on the farm, but in 1913 a fire destroyed his house and barn, which have since been replaced. Charles H. and Orena (Curtis) Vargason have been the parents of five children, Orrin H., Clara, Floyd, Florence, who died at the age of eighteen, and Eva. The Vargasons are members of the Baptist church. Mr. Vargason is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America and the oldest member in his camp. He served on the school board for thirteen years and, until last year, was overseer for a period of fourteen years. Mr. Vargason is a Republican in politics. During the early years of the local creamery company, he was president of the organization.

Reared on a farm in the state of Iowa, Orrin H. Vargason was educated in the public schools. In 1899 he moved to Otter Tail county, and located in Inman township, where he began renting land. In 1911 he purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land in section 14, and has followed general farming and stock raising.

In 1909 Mr. Vargason was married to Belle Fletcher, who was born in Nidaros township, Otter Tail county, and who is the daughter of James A. and Rose (Murdock) Fletcher. James A. Fletcher was born at Old Clitherall on February 17, 1866, and is the son of Edmond and Sarah (Muir) Fletcher, the former of whom was probably born in Pennsylvania, but moved to Indiana, when only six years old. He also lived in Illinois and Iowa, but on May 6, 1865, came to Otter Tail county with a colony. Edmond Fletcher settled at Oldtown and worked at the blacksmith's trade for a time. Later, he engaged in farming with his two sons, Emery and James. They purchased three hundred and twenty acres of land in Nidaros township and Girard township. Here Edmond Fletcher lived until his death on July 26, 1906. His wife, a native of Michigan, had come with her sister, Mary, to Otter Tail county. She was born in 1842 and is still living. They were the parents of four children, Louisa, who married Harry McLoughlin and lives at Carson Lake, Minnesota; James A.; Emery, who is a farmer of Girard township, and Elsie, who married Frank Whiting, of Shelbrook, Canada.

James A. Fletcher was educated in the public schools at Oldtown. In 1890 Mr. Fletcher, in partnership with his brother, purchased one hundred

and sixty acres of land in Nidaros township and has since been engaged in general farming and stock raising. He and his wife are members of the church of Jesus Christ and Mr. Fletcher is a trustee in the church. Mrs. Fletcher is the daughter of Hiram Murdock. Mr. and Mrs. Fletcher have three children, Belle, who is the wife of Mr. Vargason; Clyde, who was educated in the Clitherall high school and who is a farmer and lives at home, and Lee, who also lives at home.

Mr. and Mrs. Orrin H. Vargason have been the parents of four children, Myrtle, Ilo, Harry, deceased, and Hazel.

Mr. Vargason is a stockholder in the Deer Creek Shipping Association and also in the Farmers Potato Warehouse, of Deer Creek, Minnesota. He is a well known farmer and substantial citizen.

CARL GUSTAV WEMSTROM.

Carl Gustav Wemstrom, a well-known farmer of Everts township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, was born in Sweden, August 2, 1858, and is the son of Nels and Hellena Gustina (Lundbeck) Wemstrom, both of whom were born in Sweden and who lived and died in their native land.

Carl Gustav Wemstrom was reared in Sweden and educated in that country. In 1891 Mr. Wemstrom came to Chicago, Illinois, shortly after his marriage in Sweden. In 1893 his wife and family also came to Chicago. Mr. Wemstrom moved thereafter to a farm in Will county, forty miles southwest of Chicago and, for the next seventeen years, rented land. In 1910 Mr. Wemstrom came to Otter Tail county and purchased a farm of two hundred and twenty-five acres, where he lived until a short time ago, when he sold the farm. He paid forty-two dollars an acre for the farm and sold it for seventy-five dollars an acre.

On December 22, 1878, Carl G. Wemstrom was married in Sweden to Matilda Monson, who was born in Sweden on February 3, 1857. Mrs. Wemstrom's parents spent their entire lives in their native country. Eight children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Wemstrom as follow: Nels, in 1879; Kare Chestin, in 1884; Manges, in 1886; John, in 1889; Marie, in 1894; Ida, in 1896; Carl, in 1898, and Clara Floreda, in 1901. Of these children, Nels, who is a farmer in Illinois, married Rosa Wemstrom and has seven children, John, Andrew, Carl, John, Joseph, Marjorie Rose and Rose Marie, the two latter being twins. Kare Chestin is the wife of Nels Nelsen, of Illinois, and has two children, Hilda and William Nels. Marie is the wife of Edwin Andersen and lives on a farm southwest of Fergus Falls. The remainder of the children are at home.

Mr. and Mrs. Carl G. Wemstrom and family are members of the Lutheran church.

JOHN PERSONS.

John Persons, of Oak Valley township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, is an enterprising and up-to-date farmer, who has made a splendid success of agriculture.

Mr. Persons was born not far from Milwaukee, Wisconsin, March 12, 1851. He is the son of William and Marsha (Bagley) Persons, natives of New York state and Vermont, respectively. Mr. Persons' paternal grandparents were Brainard and Lucretia (Burrows) Persons, who were early settlers in New York state and who later came to Wisconsin. Brainard Persons died in the state of Wisconsin, but his wife died in New York state. The maternal grandparents of Mr. Persons were George and Sarah Bagley, both of whom died in the state of Vermont.

Mr. Persons' parents, William and Marsha (Bagley) Persons, were married in New York state, but shortly after their marriage, immigrated to Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Later, they moved to Rock county, Wisconsin, and still later to Green county. There William Persons died in 1859. His wife survived him more than a half century, passing away in 1910 in Green county, Wisconsin. To them were born five children, William, Byron, John, Oscar and Myron, the latter being deceased. Mr. Persons' mother was married afterward to David Heathman and to them was born one child, Henry.

John Persons was reared on a farm in Green county, Wisconsin, and educated in the public schools of that state. In 1880 Mr. Persons immigrated to Iowa and purchased a farm in Pocahontas county, comprising two hundred and forty acres. He resided in Iowa until 1898, when he moved to Otter Tail county, purchasing eighty acres of land in section 29, of Oak Valley township. Since that time, Mr. Persons has added one hundred and sixty acres and now has eighty acres of the farm cleared and well improved. While a resident of Iowa, Mr. Persons was a member of the school board.

On July 20, 1872, John Persons was married in Green county, Wisconsin, to Jane Meredith, who was born on May 23, 1855, in Wales, the daughter of Edward J. and Mary (Evans) Meredith. They were both natives of Wales and in 1866 came to Green county, Wisconsin. Mrs. Persons' father was a shoemaker by trade, but he owned several farms in Green county, Wisconsin, which he subsequently sold. Finally, he and his wife moved to Chicago, where the latter died on February 21, 1906, at the age of seventy-four. After her death, he moved to Lansing, Michigan, where he lived with his daughter, Mollie McFadden, until his death in 1911 at the age of seventy-seven. Mrs. Persons is one of eight children born to her parents, she being the second child. Two of the children, Mary Ann, the

eldest, and James, the sixth child, are deceased. The living children, besides Mrs. Persons, are, Edwin, Mollie, Thomas, Anna and Rose.

Mr. and Mrs. John Persons have six children, Mary, Lillian, Myron, Anna, Edwin and John. Mary, born on June 23, 1874, is the wife of Frank Chase, of Todd county, Minnesota, and has eleven children, Pearl, Paul, Frank, Mary, Clara, Lloyd, Eunice, Melvin, Alpha, Irene and Fred. Lillian, born on November 19, 1877, was the wife of Adrian Chase and had two children, Lottie and Esther. She died on April 6, 1912. Myron, born on May 11, 1881, married Carrie Townley and has four children, Ruth, Ivis, Dorman and Lillian. Anna, September 6, 1886, is the wife of Roy Martin and to them have been born five children, Eva, deceased; Hazel, Cecil, Vera and Edwin. Edwin, March 1, 1890, is unmarried. John, December 5, 1895, lives at home with his parents. The Persons family is highly respected by all of the people of Oak Valley township. Mr. and Mrs. Persons have reared an industrious and hard-working family and well deserve the respect and confidence of their neighbors.

OSCAR NORDMARKEN.

The name Trondhjem, given to the township in which Oscar Nordmarken resides, suggests the fact that the community was first settled by Norwegians, but there is nothing in the name to signify what feats of bravery were accomplished by those pioneers who met the dangers of both land and ocean in order that they might enjoy an independent life in a country where liberty and success go hand in hand. The story of the achievements of these men must be left to the biographer, who can do little more than outline the rugged course pursued by these men of Norwegian birth in the county in which they now reside.

Oscar Nordmarken was born on the 20th of November, 1873, in Trondhjem township on the farm where he still resides. He is the son of Gilbert Nordmarken and Martha Haaogth, among the oldest settlers of that part of Minnesota in which their son now resides. No more tragic example of the pioneer days in that section of the country can be related than that of the struggles of Ole and Thora Haaogth, the parents of Martha Haaogth, who, after arriving in America, came to Minnesota for residence. The journey across the Atlantic in those days covered a period of sixteen weeks, during which perilous encounters were met and thrilling dangers passed. After remaining only a short time in Fillmore county, Minnesota, where they first settled upon their arrival in this country, Ole and Thora Haaogth, made a journey to Otter Tail county, during one of the most severe winters ever known in that locality. During a heavy snow storm which came up during the course of the trip, Ole Haaogth was frozen and died shortly after-

ward, leaving his wife to meet the hardships of an unpopulated farm region, alone and unknown. She proved to be a woman of remarkable strength of character, however, and reared her family to respect the highest principles of right living. Her death was the culmination of a life of usefulness and unrelenting toil. She died in Norwegian Grove township, where she had spent most of her days since the tragic death of her husband.

The parents of Oscar Nordmarken were born in Hadeland, Norway, his father's birth having occurred on the 29th of October, 1845, and his mother's on the 28th of March, 1842. Martha Haaogth came to America with her parents, in 1866, and lived with them in Fillmore county, Minnesota, where she met Gilbert O. Nordmarken, the man who later became her husband, and who had come to this country also in the year 1866, on the same ship. Gilbert Nordmarken rented a farm in Fillmore county during the first five years of his residence in America. His second move was to Otter Tail county, where he went by a team of oxen, in a covered wagon. In this locality he homesteaded two hundred acres of land in section 20, which was located in Trondhjem township. The character of the farm was wild with prairie vegetation and the first piece of labor was that of putting up a log cabin which was a task of strength and ability. As success came to Mr. Nordmarken, he began to buy by degrees, pieces of land in other communities. One of the sections of land owned by him was located in North Dakota, near Mooreton and Granville.

To Mr. Nordmarken belongs the honor of having been a pioneer in the truest sense of the word. The hardships encountered by him in the early days of agricultural development can scarcely be comprehended by the modern generation of men who are living in an age of comfort. The remarkable fact evident in the lives of these soldiers of the wilderness is that, notwithstanding their humble beginnings in the field of labor which they chose, they were able to reach a high place in the field of industry and were often looked upon later in life as men of wealth and prosperity.

Probably no greater example of success through difficulties can be given than that of the life of Gilbert Nordmarken. One of the first disappointments of his life occurred when the house he had labored to build was totally destroyed by a storm. For three consecutive years his crops were ruined by swarms of grasshoppers. Once during these years of hopeless striving, he succeeded in saving part of the crop, which he carried many miles to a market. At the time of the sale it was discovered that the grain was so full of grasshopper wings as to render it of no value. In relating the incident in later years, Mr. Nordmarken often referred to it as the greatest disappointment of his life. But he was not a man to be conquered by despair. He looked about him at the resources of the community and

turned loss into gain. For the greater part of that winter he kept his family by killing game. The following years of his life were filled with success and happiness. In 1897 he retired to Fergus Falls, where he and his wife lived until they passed away. He often returned for short visits to the farm he had made and looked upon its prosperity with satisfaction.

Gilbert Nordmarken was one of the first chairmen of the board of supervisors and had a prominent part in the laying out of the roads in the township where he lived. He and his wife were enthusiastic members of the Lutheran church, where for twenty years Mr. Nordmarken served as minister. A strange coincidence brought the death of Mr. and Mrs. Gilbert Nordmarken in the same year, she having passed away on the 4th of October, 1914, and he on the 13th of the following month. Of the children born to this couple the following facts are given: Tena, who married A. J. Moen at Battle Lake, died in 1912; Mollie died in infancy; Oscar is the subject of this sketch; Oliver resides in Minot, North Dakota; Alfred, a twin brother to Oliver, is living at Minneapolis; Minna, who married N. G. Lelovold, is living in Granville, North Dakota; Mollie married A. S. Karry and resides in Wolf Point, Montana.

Oscar Nordmarken received his early education in the schools of Trondhjem township and later at the high school in Fergus Falls. While he was fully appreciative of the educational advantages received, he owed the greatest influence on his character to the early discipline of the farm on which he was reared. For some years after he finished the high school course, Mr. Nordmarken rented the home place and farmed until 1902, when he went to North Dakota for the purpose of homesteading one hundred and sixty acres of land in Ward county. He remained on the claim for two years and at the expiration of that time returned to the homestead of his father, which he rented until 1905. In that year his ventures in the field of agriculture had proven so profitable that he was able to purchase the home place, which covered two hundred and forty acres of land. He has improved the farm since the time of the purchase and has turned his attention to general farming. Mr. Nordmarken is a man of broad mind and wide interests; his chosen line of work has in no way made him narrow, for he has reached out into other fields. For seven years he acted as manager of the Rothsay Telephone Company and was also director in the Farmers Elevator Company, at Rothsay, which he helped to organize. In 1893 he helped organize the Trondhjem Co-operative Creamery Company, and after its organization acted as director of the concern for a number of years.

In his political interests, Mr. Nordmarken is an independent voter. He has served in a number of political offices, among which are justice of the peace, constable and road supervisor, and in these positions of trust he

strengthened the faith of the public at large in his ability and competence. On the 11th of January, 1899, Oscar Nordmarken was united in marriage to Annie Freng, a native of Pelican Rapids, and the daughter of Christian and Helga Freng, natives of Norway, and numbered among the oldest settlers in the Norwegian colony of Minnesota. Since the death of his wife, Christian Freng has made his home with his four sons in Canada. The children born to Mr. and Mrs. Nordmarken are Gordon, Harry and Alide, all of whom are living in Trondhjem township.

ALBERT C. CARPENTER.

Albert C. Carpenter, of Dead Lake township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, is an agriculturist of ability and honesty, and is much respected in his locality. He first saw the light of day on May 3, 1860, in Freeborn county, Minnesota, and is the son of Willard L. and Prudah M. (Bullock) Carpenter, both natives of Jefferson county, New York, near Ellisburg.

The paternal grandparents of Albert C. Carpenter were George and Kaziah (Macumber) Carpenter, who were natives of Vermont, but removed in 1830 to Jefferson county, New York, where they settled on a farm in the southern part of the county and remained there until 1844. At that time they removed to Kenosha county, Wisconsin, where they purchased land and engaged in agricultural pursuits until 1855, when they changed locations to Freeborn county, Minnesota. George Carpenter purchased land and cultivated the same until his death, in 1879. He served his country in the War of 1812. Kaziah (Macumber) Carpenter passed away in 1865. They were the parents of five children and were both members of the Baptist church. The names of the children follow: Rebecca, Phoebe, Willard L., Azubah and Washington G. Rebecca became the wife of Samuel Reynolds and they lived in Wisconsin, where her death occurred; Phoebe married Stephen Barber, and they also lived in Wisconsin, where she died; Azubah was united in marriage to Lemuel E. Bullock, a native of Jefferson county, New York, and her death occurred in Becker county, Minnesota; Washington G. is a veteran of the Civil War, having served in the Ninetieth Regiment, Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, and a former resident of Otter Tail county, Minnesota, but now living in Eland, Wisconsin, where he is retired.

The maternal grandparents of Albert C. Carpenter were Asa and Sarah (Blanchard) Bullock, both natives of Vermont and early settlers in Jefferson county, New York, where they were neighbors of George and Kaziah (Macumber) Carpenter. Asa Bullock had been a messmate of George Carpenter during their service in the War of 1812, both having been members of Belknap's Company. Asa Bullock was a shoemaker by trade, but after his removal west, he settled in Lake county, Illinois, and engaged

in saw-mill work. In 1855 he removed the family to Freeborn county, Minnesota, where his death occurred soon after, in 1859. Sarah (Blanchard) Bullock, his wife, passed away in Illinois, before their removal to Minnesota. They were the parents of ten children, Asa, Sarah, Nathan, Cyrus, Joel, John, Maria, Lemuel E., Prudah M. and Harrison. Asa was a farmer of Freeborn county, Minnesota, where his death occurred in 1864; Sarah became the wife of Reuben Babcock, and died at her home in Freeborn county, Minnesota; Nathan was a farmer, living in Freeborn county, and his death occurred in 1878; Cyrus, a veteran of the Civil War, was a member of the Tenth Regiment, Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, and died in Becker county, Minnesota; Joel was also a soldier, in the Fifth Minnesota, and passed away in 1895, while a resident of Dead Lake township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota; John died in Illinois, just after having reached his majority; Maria died at the age of sixteen years; Lemuel was also a soldier in the Civil War, in the Tenth Minnesota, and his death occurred in the state of Oregon; Prudah M., the mother of Albert C. Carpenter, passed away on October 1, 1906, and Harrison, a soldier in the Civil War and comrade of old Judge Baxter and Mr. Niebles, served in the Fourth Minnesota, and his death occurred in the state of Washington.

Willard L. Carpenter, father of Albert C. Carpenter, was born on November 10, 1832, and removed to the west with his parents, who settled in Freeborn county, Minnesota, where he remained until his marriage to Prudah M. Bullock, whose birth occurred on December 23, 1835, and who also removed west with her parents. After their marriage, they resided in Oakland township, Freeborn county, until 1879, at which time they settled on seventy-four acres of homestead land in section 20, of Dead Lake township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota. This land was entirely unimproved and almost surrounded by the waters of Dead Lake and formed a peninsula into the lake. A log house was built and improvements were begun. The original house of logs stood on the site of the present home. It was while engaged in the cultivation of this farm that his death occurred, on October 19, 1912. He was a stanch Republican and was elected to office while a resident of Freeborn county. He, as well as his wife, was a member of the Baptist church and was also a member of the Good Templars. They were the parents of only one child, Albert C.

Albert C. Carpenter received his education in the public schools of Freeborn county, Minnesota, and in the graded schools of Austin, of the same state. His early life was spent on the home farm and he removed to Otter Tail county, Minnesota, with his parents, in 1879, and continued to assist his father in the duties of the place until his father's death, at which time he assumed the entire charge and is still cultivating and managing the

homestead. He is a breeder of Shropshire sheep and keeps a herd of eighty-six always on the place. Politically, he is a stanch Republican and has held the office of township clerk for the past ten years and has acted as supervisor for the period of two terms.

In 1895 Albert C. Carpenter was united in marriage to Ellen Grover, daughter of Thomas J. Grover, an old settler of Freeborn county, Minnesota, having settled there in 1856. He had formerly lived in the state of Iowa, where he had moved from Wisconsin. After residing for a period of twenty-five years in Freeborn county, the family removed to Dead Lake township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, and there he died. Ellen Grover was a native of Freeborn county. Both Albert C. and Ellen (Grover) Carpenter are members of the Baptist church and lend their active support to that denomination. Albert C. Carpenter is highly respected by his fellow citizens, and this respect is but just and fitting, for his life has been replete with unselfish service to those around him.

ARNT MONSON.

Arnt Monson was born at Hedmarken, Norway, July 25, 1850. His parents, Peter and Karen (Erickson) Monson, were hardworking, honest people, who were born, grew up and married in Norway, where the former was employed on the large farm of a neighbor. When the son, Arnt, was seventeen years of age the family, who had friends near Christina lake, bought their tickets from New York to this county, taking up a homestead claim of one hundred and sixty acres on the line between Douglas and Otter Tail counties. This was after a tempestuous and almost fatal voyage. The little band of emigrants was shipwrecked in the sailing vessel named "Honepar." Three weeks after they set sail, a terrific storm came up and nearly capsized the boat and for three weeks the frightened passengers drifted, finally being picked up by steamers and landed at Limerick, Ireland. It required four weeks to repair the vessel, and when it finally arrived in Quebec nineteen weeks had elapsed since it had embarked from Christiania. After the delay of another week, while their boat was quarantined, they traveled by way of the lakes and overland to St. Paul, Minnesota, and thence to this county. Here they began clearing the land and erecting the buildings necessary for pioneer life.

Mr. and Mrs. Peter Monson were devout members of the Lutheran church of Ashby. They lived industrious lives in their new home until they died, the father in 1897, and the mother five years later. Their children continued to live in this country. They are Ludvig, who died a young man; Arnt, the subject of this brief review; Edward, who lives east of Thief River Falls; Hedvick, who married Nils Woodstrom and lives nine

miles from Crookston, Minnesota; Maria, who is Mrs. Arstlach Langlee, who lives near Thief River Falls, Minnesota; Hans died on his father's farm near Ashby, Minnesota; the youngest child was a daughter, who died in infancy.

Arnt Monson received such education as was afforded by the schools of his native land, this ending when he left Norway with his parents. During the first five years of his residence in this country, he worked on the railroads in Minnesota. In 1872 he came home to Otter Tail county, where he lived one year. In 1875, on January 1, he was married to Mary Thomas, a native of St. Croix county, Wisconsin, having been born near Centerville. She is the daughter of Christian and Elizabeth (Hanson) Thomas, who came to America from Norway about 1853 and settled in Wisconsin. They later took up a homestead in St. Olaf township, Otter Tail county, and here they spent the remainder of their lives.

In 1876 Mr. and Mrs. Monson took up a homestead of eighty acres in section 4, Folden township, and the following year, with their first born child, moved to their new home. That this was in the early history of the county, is indicated by the fact that they came in wagons drawn by oxen, there being no railroads in the county. Their first home was a log cabin whose roof was constructed of bark which they obtained in the woods. This crude home stood next to where the more modern residence now stands. Two years later Mr. Monson bought eighty additional acres in section 3, adjoining his farm, and these he cleared and improved until 1885, in which year he built a modern home, and a barn in 1890, these having been kept in good repair.

To Mr. and Mrs. Monson were born seven children, namely: Elise, the deceased wife of Edward Olson, of Almora, who died at the age of thirty-six; Emma, who died at the age of twenty-two; Ludvik, formerly a teacher and lawyer, but now farming in Alberta, Canada; Oscar, who attended Northwestern College in Fergus Falls, now also lives in Alberta; Effie, who stays at home; Hilda, who died at the age of nine, and Agnes, who was educated in the Henning schools and also in the Dryton schools of North Dakota.

Mr. Monson has had other interests besides farming. He is a shareholder in the Farmers Co-operative Creamery Company, at Vining, and also in the Farmers Elevator Company, in Vining and Henning. He has been township supervisor for the past twenty-five years and has served as school treasurer since the organization of the district, in 1885. He also was census enumerator for the years 1890 and 1900. He generally votes the Republican ticket.

Mr. Monson is a man upright and honorable in all the relations of life.

That he is public spirited also is certain, because of the time and attention he has given cheerfully to matters concerning the locality in which he and his family have lived. He has been particularly interested in educational work, and has contributed much to the local schools.

SIMON SIMONSON.

Born in Norway, Simón Simonson had the spirit of the explorer, for in his youth he came with his parents and their family to this country and joined with them heartily in fashioning the new home environment which was to them a strange and uncertain experience. With but little to start upon, he has worked and saved and, like many other self-made men, can look back upon his early struggles with pride. As an early settler here he has by his toil and enterprise contributed to the material wealth of the county.

Mr. Simonson came from Gudbrandsdalen, Norway, where he was born on October 21, 1863, the son of Eric and Annie (Carlson) Simonson, who were pious, industrious people, ambitious for the welfare of their children. He was born on May 7, 1829, and she on March 3, 1838. In Norway these young people grew up and were married and while they lived in that country he was a laborer, but in order to better his economic condition, he and his little family set sail for America in 1866. They first settled in Menominee, Wisconsin, and lived there for four years, in 1871 coming to Otter Tail county in a wagon drawn by an ox-team, in company with his half-brother, a cousin and their families. They took up a homestead consisting largely of prairie land dotted with groves, this being a tract of eighty acres in section 32, township 132, range 37. They started their new life in a log cabin situated a few rods west of their present home. He was soon able to homestead eighty acres adjoining his home on the north, this giving him possession of one hundred and sixty acres. Later he built a larger log house than the one he formerly lived in and this has been remodeled and is still in use. Selling out to his son, Simon, in 1885, this successful farmer spent the rest of his life in retirement and has now reached the ripe old age of eighty-six, living at the home of his son, Simon. Both he and his wife were devout members of the Norwegian Lutheran church. She died on April 23, 1915. They were the parents of four children, namely: Simon, Johanna, the widow of Ole H. Ronning, who lives in North Dakota; Mary, the widow of P. T. Olson, living in Elmo township, near Wind river and about four and one-half miles northeast of her brother, Simon; Amund resides in Plaza, North Dakota.

Owing to the limited educational resources of his boyhood, Simon Simonson had not early advantages. His boyhood was spent on the farm and his schooling was such as was possible on the frontier in those early

days. Having helped to manage the farm for a number of years, in 1885 he purchased it from his father. Thirty years ago he bought forty acres additional on the east of his land in section 33, and on the entire property became a well-known general and dairy farmer and stock raiser. He has erected modern barns and buildings and since 1913 has put up a silo, all of which are well painted and in good repair.

Mrs. Simonson is also a native of Norway and was the daughter of Iver Lukken, her christian name being Mary. She and Mr. Simonson were married in 1886. The brothers and sisters of the subject of this sketch are Annie, who died in infancy; Emma, who was born in 1888 and died on October 23, 1893; Rosa, who married a neighbor named Ole Hanson; Ellen, Edward, Arthur, Selmer, Mable, Marvin, Raymond and Palmer.

Aside from his farming interests, Mr. Simonson has been identified with a number of business enterprises. He is secretary of the Farmers Elevator Company at Henning, treasurer of the Almora Co-operative Farmers Creamery Company, and has served as chairman of the board of supervisors and was assessor for a term of six years. As a Republican he has been a delegate to the county conventions a number of times. Both he and his wife are members of the Elmo Lutheran church, of which he is the secretary.

Mr. Simonson belongs to the thrifty, industrious, persevering type of men for which his native country is noted. Such men have been the founders of communities upon which civilization was later built up, leaving to the generations that follow inheritances in strength of character as well as in lands and other forms of material wealth.

A. G. ANDERSON.

Among the prominent citizens of Fergus Falls, this county, is A. G. Anderson, mayor of Fergus Falls in 1912 and, at present, president of the Fergus Falls Board of Education. Mr. Anderson, who was also appointed by Governor Eberhart as a member of the state efficiency board and who is treasurer of the Otter Tail County Agricultural Society, is a man of strong individuality, who is keenly interested in the public affairs of his home city. He is known far and wide as one who never hesitates frankly to state what he feels and believes to be right or wrong. Since March 26, 1902, he has been cashier of the Scandia State Bank.

Born in Norway on February 22, 1861, A. G. Anderson is the son of Andrus and Guri (Gronstad) Anderson, the former of whom died in Norway. After the father's death, the mother and son, in 1870, immigrated to America and A. G. Anderson received his early education at Story City, Iowa, and completed his schooling at the Red Wing Seminary.



A. G. ANDERSON.

In 1884 Mr. Anderson located at Fergus Falls and, for about seven years was employed as a deputy in the office of the treasurer of Otter Tail county. In 1890 he was elected to the position of assistant cashier in the First National Bank, of Fergus Falls, a position which he held for seven years. In 1898 he returned to Story City, his boyhood home, where he was engaged in the mercantile business for four years. In 1902, however, Mr. Anderson returned to Fergus Falls as a cashier of the Scandia State Bank, a position which he has filled with credit for nearly fourteen years. As one of the executive officers of the bank, he has had no small part in the growth of the prestige of this popular financial institution. He is a man of cordial frame of mind and is popular, not only with the other officers and directors of the bank, but with the depositors and the public generally.

Mr. Anderson's wife, before her marriage, was Dora Olson, a native of Iowa, and to them have been born two children, Merriam and Eleanor. Mr. and Mrs. Anderson and family have a comfortable home in Fergus Falls and enjoy the confidence and respect of a large circle of friends.

GEORGE TRAUTNER.

George Trautner is one of the progressive agriculturists and respected citizens of Candor township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, and is a native of Germany, having been born on May 3, 1859, in Byran, of that country. His parents were Peter and Annie (Pitner) Trautner, who remained in Germany until their deaths. Peter Trautner died in 1880. Both were members of the Lutheran church and the parents of the following children: John George, a farmer and saloon keeper in Germany; Peter is a resident of Otter Tail county and lives with George; John is a farmer in Germany; John, deceased; George and Margaret, deceased.

George Trautner received his education in the public schools of Germany, and upon the completion of same became a tailor, which trade he followed until his emigration to America, in 1882. He located in Carver county, Minnesota, for two months and then removed to Otter Tail county, where he was employed as a farm hand until 1887, at which time he purchased one hundred and fifty-five acres of partly improved land, in section 34, in Candor township. After clearing this and partially improving it, he sold it and in 1890 purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land on which he now resides. This was one of the Klug homesteads and was merely "proved up." George Trautner is engaged in general farming and makes a specialty of breeding and raising Red Poland cattle.

In 1890 George Trautner was united in marriage to Barbara Sigler, also a native of Germany, and they are the parents of the following chil-

dren: Annie, wife of Joe Mistalsky, and living in Dent; Lizzie, who lives at home, and George and another child who died in infancy. Barbara (Sigler) Trautner emigrated to America in 1882, locating in Illinois for two years and then removing to Otter Tail county.

George Trautner has served the community as a member of the township board of supervisors for nine years, and donated the land on which the present school now stands. For the past two years he has served as the chairman of the township board of supervisors and has been a member of the school board for twenty years. Politically, he is an independent voter. Both he and his wife are members of the Lutheran church, in which he has served as trustee for twenty-five years.

THOMAS J. HILDEN.

Thomas J. Hilden, who has been prominent in the political life of Otter Tail county for many years and who was formerly a well-known teacher of the county, is a native of Hadeland, Norway, where he was born on October 29, 1856.

Mr. Hilden is the son of Johannes and Kari Hilden, who never came to America. Johannes Hilden was a farmer and merchant. Both he and his wife died when their son, Thomas J., was an infant. They were the parents of seven children: Peter, who came to America in 1860, served in the Civil War and died on December 25, 1913, at Montevideo, Minnesota; Louis L., who is a farmer in Wisconsin; Andrew J., who spent his early life in Goodhue county, Minnesota, but now lives in Burdette, Minnesota, where he is a merchant; Martha, who married Andrew Larson, and died in Clitherall township; Anna, who is the widow of Ole O. Hoff, lives in Tordenskjold township; Kari, who died in Norway when a child, and Thomas J., the subject of this sketch.

Educated in the public schools of his native land, Thomas J. Hilden had passed through the middle school at the age of fourteen, when he came to America. After arriving in this country, Mr. Hilden settled in Goodhue county, Minnesota, where he worked on a farm in the summer, attending school in the winter until 1877, when he moved to Red Wing and there attended high school.

Subsequently, Mr. Hilden started out alone for Otter Tail county to visit his sister. En route to this county he met the county superintendent of schools, G. E. Cowing, with whom he rode to Fergus Falls. Mr. Cowing asked him to teach school and, after having been appointed as a teacher at Vining, he began teaching at that place and for the next ten years was engaged in educational work. At the time Mr. Hilden began his educational career, he had been in America only six years. In 1882 Mr. Hilden

purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land in Tordenskjold township, paying nine hundred dollars cash on a purchase of land which amounted to thirteen hundred dollars. Of this farm only twenty-five acres were cleared and the only other improvement was a small log house. Mr. Hilden purchased a yoke of oxen and began to clear the land, teaching school in the winter and farming in the summer. Subsequently, he replaced the log buildings with frame ones and has lived on this farm ever since, engaged in general farming and stock raising.

On September 16, 1883, Thomas J. Hilden was married to Maria C. Hoff, a native of Norway and the daughter of Christian C. Hoff, deceased, and Martha C. Hoff, who is still living. Mrs. Hilden came to America with her parents when only three years old. To them have been born nine children: Afton, who is a grain dealer and farmer at Starkweather, North Dakota; Nellie, who married John O. Hesby, lives at Halstead, Minnesota; Clifford, who is a farmer in North Dakota; Mabel, who married W. L. Brown, and lives in North Dakota on a farm; Thomas, who is a graduate of an agricultural college and lives at home with his parents; Marcus, who is a clerk at Deep, North Dakota; George, Laura and Alton, who live at home with their parents.

Thomas J. Hilden is a prominent Republican of Otter Tail county. He was defeated as the Republican candidate for the Legislature in 1892, but has since served in more important local offices and has been very active in politics all of his life. Both Mr. and Mrs. Hilden are members of the Lutheran Synod church. Mr. Hilden was prominent in raising the funds for the erection of a new church. He is a successful farmer, a well-known and highly-esteemed citizen and altogether an ideal man.

NILS H. NELSON.

As an extensive farmer and stock raiser and a man who has large interests in business circles in Otter Tail county, as well as a citizen who has served in various public offices and has taken an active part in the affairs of the community, Nils H. Nelson has a prominent place in the record of valued citizens of this community.

Nils H. Nelson was born in Norway, at Gandsahts, Prestegjeld, Gudbrandsdelm, near the town of Lillehammer, May 19, 1853, the son of Hans and Randi (Gunderson) Nelson, both of whom were natives of Norway, the father born on April 17, 1817, and the mother on December 8, 1810. Hans and Randi Nelson, following their marriage, bought a farm in Norway, where they engaged as farmers until the year 1860, when they came, with their children, to America, and settled in Otter Tail county, Minnesota, where they bought the improvements of a land squatter, in

sections 17, 19 and 20, of Tordenskjold township, and lived there until the opening of United States government land to homesteaders and then they took up one hundred and sixty acres of land in Tordenskjold township, a place on which they built a log cabin for a home, together with other necessary improvements. On this farm Hans and Randi Nelson lived for the remainder of their lives, Hans Nelson dying in the year 1902, at the age of eighty-five years, and his wife, Randi, dying in the year 1880. Hans Nelson and his wife were among the most highly respected of the community and they took an active part in the founding of the Free Lutheran church of Minnesota. In politics, Hans Nelson was a Republican. To Hans and Randi Nelson were born two children, Nils H., of this sketch, and Randine, who died at the age of forty, unmarried.

Nils H. Nelson was educated in the public schools of Norway, where he attended classes until, with his parents, he came to America and then for a time studied in the schools of Otter Tail county, Minnesota. After his schools days, Nils H. Nelson helped his father on the farm for some years and later became the owner of the home place, land to which he added sixty acres adjoining, on the west and the north.

Nils H. Nelson has taken an important part in the public life of Tordenskjold township and Otter Tail county, Minnesota, where for more than thirty-two years he has held the office of township clerk. Mr. Nelson has served as treasurer of the school district in which he is located and for some time he served his county as deputy county treasurer. In church circles, Nils H. Nelson is affiliated with the Lutheran church, an organization for which he served as treasurer. In business life, Mr. Nelson is no less conspicuous, for he is a stockholder in the Otter Tail Co-operative Store, in the Farmers Elevator Company, in the Creamery Company and in the Telephone Company, of Otter Tail county.

On December 28, 1878, Nils H. Nelson and Maren Hansina Rasmussen were married, she being a native of Denmark, the daughter of Jorgen and Christine Rasmussen, who came to America about the year 1866, and lived for a time at Cleveland, Ohio, and then, in the year 1871, they moved to Otter Tail county, Minnesota, and settled in section 20, of Tordenskjold township, where they took up a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres of land, and where Jorgen and Christine Rasmussen lived until May 23, 1914, when Jorgen Rasmussen died, at the age of ninety-two years, his wife, Christine Rasmussen, having preceded him in death about four years, she dying on August 13, 1910, at the age of eighty-two years.

To Nils H. and Maren Nelson were born the following children: Harold, who for some time attended the state agricultural college at Minneapolis, and who now lives at home; Ragna, a dress-maker of Fargo, North

Dakota; Lucy Cecelia, who lives at home; Clara, who married Edwin Wagstrom, and lives in Maplewood township, on a farm; Agnes, who lives at Fargo, North Dakota; Pauline, who is a teacher in the public schools of Otter Tail county; and Helen, who lives at home.

In politics and in private life, Nils H. Nelson fills an important place in the community and is among those men who have the respect of the entire county and district. Well and favorably known, he is one of those citizens of whom the township and county may rightfully be proud.

HENDRICK ARNOLD HANSON.

Prominent in the political life of Tordenskjold township and a successful farmer of Otter Tail county for many years, Hendrick Arnold Hanson was born on his father's homestead farm in Tordenskjold township on June 10, 1873.

Mr. Hanson is a son of Nils and Anne (Monsen) Loken, both of whom were born in Norway, and who were married in that country. They came to America in 1868, and for two years lived near Red Wing, Minnesota. About 1870 they emigrated to Otter Tail county, being accompanied to this county by Mr. Hanson's maternal grandmother, Ingebor Monsen. The latter took up a homestead claim of forty acres in Clitherall township, and on this tract the whole family lived for two years, after which Mr. Hanson's father homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of land in Tordenskjold township, which he gradually improved from time to time. Here the family lived until 1908, when the farm was sold to E. J. Hanson, the youngest son. At this time the father retired from active farm life and removed to a home near that of his son, Hendrick Arnold. Both Mr. Hanson's father and mother are living at this time, his father now being seventy-eight years, and the mother is seventy-nine. At one time Mr. Hanson's father was identified with the Populist party, but is now an independent voter. Both he and his good wife are devout members of the Lutheran church, and he was one of the founders of the Trefoldighed church in Clitherall township. They were the parents of seven children, of whom Hendrick Arnold was the fourth in order of birth. The others, in the order of their birth, are as follow: Hans Jacob, a farmer living at Landa, North Dakota; Inga, the wife of Hans Olsen, a farmer of Landa, North Dakota; Dena, the wife of Herman Lillestrand, of Landa, North Dakota; Mollie, the wife of J. B. Highdale, a farmer of Tordenskjold township; Edwin Julius, living on his father's farm, and Sarah, the wife of Jule Morstad, lives at Wall Lake, Minnesota, where her husband is a merchant.

Hendrick Arnold Hanson was educated in the public schools of Otter Tail county, and reared on his father's farm. After reaching maturity he

engaged in farming for himself. In 1807 Mr. Hanson purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land in Tordenskjold township from Jacob Fredrickson for the sum of one thousand six hundred dollars. Since that time Mr. Hanson has erected a handsome new house and barn, and has cleared forty acres of the land himself. He is a general farmer and stockman.

In 1895 Hendrick A. Hanson was married to Emma Nelson, who died in 1904, leaving five children, Nora, Alfred, Herbert and Hilma and Norris, twins. After the death of his first wife, Mr. Hanson was married, in 1907, to Fina Haldorson, and to this union have been born seven children, Alida, Emma, Niola, Francis, Eddie, Ruby and Marwin. Mrs. Hanson was born on July 21, 1875, and is a daughter of Andreas and Agnetta Haldorson, who are still living at Finmark, Norway. Mrs. Hanson's father is sixty-seven, and her mother is sixty-five years of age. Mrs. Hanson came to America in 1901, and settled in Tordenskjold township.

Mr. Hanson is a Democrat in politics, and has served his fellow citizens as township treasurer for the past fifteen years. He also served eleven years as school treasurer, and has always taken an active interest in all movements which have for their object the betterment and welfare of his community. He and his wife and family are earnest and devout members of the Lutheran church.

MARTIN S. MOKLEV.

Martin S. Moklev, a prosperous farmer of Clitherall township, and a well-known sportsman of Otter Tail county, is a United States citizen born in Sulledal, Stavanger, Norway, on June 17, 1870.

Mr. Moklev is the son of Somjo Thorstenson Moklev and Kari Thorstensdatter Helgenes. His paternal grandparents were Thorsten Somjosen Moklev and Mallena Levarsdatter Forland, who were born at Sulledal, Stavanger, Norway, and, who, after their marriage, spent their entire lives in their native land. They were farmers by occupation and had two children, Somjo Thorsenson Moklev, the father of Martin S., and Anna, who married Gabriel Falkelie, and died in Norway. She left one son, Olai G. Twedt, who lives in Dunn county, North Dakota. Another son, Jacob, died in Norway.

Mr. Moklev's maternal grandparents were Thornsten Lali and Mallena Knutsdatter Halgenes, who came to America in 1807 and settled in Illinois, where they lived only one year. With their sons, Thorsten and Knut, and their daughters, Martha and Mallena, they moved to Otter Tail county in 1808 and soon afterward settled on what is now the Hans Olson place in Tordenskjold township. After living on this farm for three years, they relinquished the farm now owned by Christian L. Moe. There they lived

for some years, or until 1881, when they moved to the place now occupied by their son, Tosten, which was purchased. There Thorsten Lali died at an advanced age, about 1886. He was the father of six children, Kari, Brita, Martha, Maline, Thorsten and Knut.

Martin S. Moklev's father was born on September 10, 1835, and his mother on August 4, 1843. They grew up in their native land and were married in the spring of 1867. Mr. Moklev's mother remained in Norway with her husband, while her parents and her brothers and sisters came to America. Mr. Moklev's father was connected with the fishing industry for twenty winters and, in the summertime, was employed in the woolen mill, operated by his father, and in farming. In 1880 he and his wife and two children came to America, joining his wife's relatives in Tordenskjold township. In June, 1880, he homesteaded one hundred and twenty acres of land in Clitherall township and the family moved to this farm on July 2, 1880. It was timber land principally, but some of it was ready for cultivation. Here the family built a log cabin with bark and dirt for a roof. They immediately began to clear the land, and, in a few years had a most productive farm, which is now occupied by their son, Martin S. Mr. Moklev's father died in July, 1910, at the age of seventy-five years. His mother, who is seventy-two years old, resides with her son on the old home farm. She is a member of the Free Lutheran church, as was also her husband. They were the parents of three children, Thorsten S., a farmer of Clitherall township; Martin, and Dena Karina, who married John Nelson and lives in Tordenskjold township.

Martin S. Moklev was educated in the public schools of Norway and, when old enough, engaged in farming. When he was nine years old, he was brought to America by his parents and grew up in this country. When he was eleven years old, he was employed in carrying water for a railroad crew. When he was old enough, he took over the management of the home farm and, in partnership with his brother, rented the farm for a number of years. In 1896 he bought the old homestead farm of one hundred and twenty acres and has been its sole owner ever since. Besides this farm, in partnership with his brother, he bought one hundred and sixty acres south of the homestead and now owns eighty acres of that farm. Altogether, he has two hundred acres. Mr. Moklev's parents lived with him all the time, his father dying several years ago. In 1902 Mr. Moklev built a house and in 1913 added a barn. He is extensively interested in the dairy business and keeps fourteen or fifteen cows, and is interested also in poultry and fruit growing. He is a stockholder in the farmers creamery, farmers elevator and farmers telephone companies of this township.

In 1910 Mr. Moklev was married to Randi Halvorsen, a native of

Sulledal, Norway, who was born at Havreval, and who is the daughter of Halvor Halvorson Tvedt and Ellerie Lifeson Aarhus. They still live in Norway, where they are farmers and landowners. Mrs. Moklev came to America in 1904 and lived in Fergus Falls until her marriage. She was born on August 15, 1880. Mr. and Mrs. Moklev have two children, Mallena Karina Eldren, born on December 22, 1912, and Sigurd Henry, August 9, 1914.

Martin S. Moklev is a thorough-going sportsman, who is interested in fishing and hunting and who spends a great deal of his time along the streams of this state. Mr. and Mrs. Moklev are members of the Free Lutheran church. Politically, Mr. Moklev is an independent voter.

OTTO J. OAK.

One of the well-known farmers of Folden township and of Otter Tail county, a man who has lived a profitable and helpful life and one who, as a citizen, has not been neglectful of his duty to the community, is Otto J. Oak. A native of Norway, who, on reaching America, applied himself industriously to an effort for success, he has proved of value to the community, and is one of those men who have a place in a record of successful and appreciated citizen.

Otto J. Oak was born at Drammen, Norway, on March 7, 1867, the son of John and Randi (Nelson) Oak, both of whom were born and married in their native land, where John Oak was a farmer. In 1886 John Oak, his wife having died, came with his children to America, and settled at St. Croix county, Wisconsin. Though at that time an elderly man, he bought a farm and established a home on which he lived, with his second wife, Anetta (Nelson) Oak, until his death, about the year 1906. To the first marriage of John Oak were born the following children: Christian, who died at the age of twenty-one years, in Norway; Bertha, who married Hans Nicolai Larson, and who died at Drammen, Norway, her three children later coming to America; Caroline, who married Anders Larson, and live in Norway; Olava, who lives at Christiana, Norway; George, who is a farmer of Canada; Gina, who married Edward Richardson, and lives in Canada, and Otto, the subject of this sketch. John Oak and his second wife, Anetta (Nelson) Oak, were the parents of one daughter, Annie, who married William Albertson, and lives in the state of Wisconsin.

Otto J. Oak, following his education in the public schools of Norway, at the age of sixteen years, came to America with his brother, George, about three years before the arrival of the elder Oak and his children, and on reaching Lake Park, Minnesota, he worked for about four months on farms of the neighborhood, after which he took up employment in the pine

woods of the state of Wisconsin, during the winter months and in the summer worked on farms and on the railroad.

In 1893 Otto J. Oak took up a homestead in Wilkin county, Minnesota, a place on which he lived for six years, and then sold his land and bought one hundred and sixty acres of land in section 8, of Folden township, a farm which he cleared and improved until it is now highly cultivated and well improved and where he is engaged in general farming.

In 1895 Otto J. Oak was married to Mary Lyngstad, who was born in Norway, and came to this country at an early age. To this union were born eleven children, Edward, Ragna Nathalie, Julia Petrine, Myrtle Olava, Edna Ruth, Lillian Mabel, Cora Adela, Clifford Herman and Oscar Norman, twins; Laura Marie and Norah Pauline.

In public life, Mr. Oak has served his community as school director for two terms and has, as a private citizen, in the ranks of the Republican party, done many things which have aided the progress and advancement of political and social conditions of the locality. Mr. Oak and his wife are devout members of the Lutheran church at the town of Folden.

EDWIN C. MANEVAL.

Edwin C. Maneval is one of those men who take great pride in the progress of the community in which they live, and who become active in all questions pertaining to the welfare of their fellow citizens. He was born on July 19, 1874, and is the son of John and Catherine (Bergner) Maneval. John Maneval was born in Pennsylvania, but is of German descent and when a young man came to Otter Tail county, Minnesota, where he met and married Catherine Bergner. She is a native of Switzerland and emigrated to America when a girl of ten or twelve years. Her parents were among the early settlers of Minnesota, in which state she grew to maturity.

After the marriage of John Maneval and Catherine Bergner, they located in Carver county, Minnesota, and purchased a farm and this place became their home until 1877. The farm was then sold and the family removed to Otter Tail county, where eighty acres of homestead land was purchased, in section 10, Candor township, which place became their home until the death of John Maneval, in 1897. The first house was of logs and was located on the banks of the creek and south of the road. Some years later, forty-nine acres of adjoining land was purchased and, later still, another piece of land, consisting of forty acres, was added. In 1885 a more modern home was erected in place of the former one of logs. The names of their children follow: Carrie is the widow of Peter Damschen, who lived in North Dakota; Alice is the wife of Jacob Damschen, and their home is in Pelican Rapids, Minnesota; Edwin C.; Horace S., who lives

in Candor township, and William, who lives in Detroit, Minnesota. The mother of this family still lives and is residing in Pelican Rapids.

Edwin C. Maneval received his education in the schools of district 121, and was reared on the old home place. As he reached maturity, he assisted in the management of the farm and in 1900 he purchased forty acres of land, which was operated independently. This farm was located just west of his father's place and became his place of residence until 1914, at which time he rented the homestead and now operates both. In 1899 Edwin C. Maneval was united in marriage to Alice R. Blossom, and they are the parents of three children, Gladys Ida, Horace Fay and Fernando John. Alice R. (Blossom) Maneval is the daughter of Fernando and Ida Blossom, who are pioneers of Candor township.

Edwin C. Maneval was one of the organizers of the Farmers Co-operative Creamery, of Vergas, Minnesota, and has been a director since its organization. He is also a stockholder of the Farmers Telephone Company and is serving as vice-president of same. Politically, he votes the Socialist ticket. He served as a member of the township board of supervisors from 1900 until 1915. He has also served on the school board about the same length of time. Fraternally, he is a member of the Order of American Yeomen.

C. E. OLSON.

C. E. Olson, a prosperous farmer and business man and a popular citizen of Tordenskjold township, was born on the farm where he now lives and which he now owns, August 27, 1874, and is the son of Esten Olson Norgaard and Ingeborg (Olson) Olson, the oldest living settlers in Tordenskjold township.

The paternal grandparents of Mr. Olson were Ole Narjord and Sigrid (Estensdatter) Narjord, the former of whom was a laborer and the latter a daughter of a soldier in the War of 1814. They were the parents of six children, all of whom remained in Norway except Mr. Olson's father and his father's sister, Mrs. Johanna Peterson, who now resides at Waterloo Ridge, Iowa. Mr. Olson's maternal grandparents, Ole Rostbakken and Kirsti (Sandmor) Rostbakken, never came to America. They died in their native land.

Mr. Olson's parents were born at Roraas, Norway, the father on January 24, 1827, and the mother on October 6, 1831. They grew up near Roraas and were married in their native land. In 1869, with three children, they came to America, settling at Waterloo Ridge, Winneshiek county, near Spring Grove, Iowa, and, until 1870, worked on a farm. In 1870 the family emigrated to Minnesota and were able to travel by rail over to St.

Cloud. From St. Cloud the trip was made to Otter Tail county with an ox team. In the same year Esten Olson Norgaard homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of land in Tordenskjold township, which at that time was not only a wilderness, but a very tangled wilderness. Shortly afterward he built a dugout and there spent the first summer. Later, however, he built a log house where the present modern buildings stand. The family has lived on this farm ever since. The father has prospered and has added to his land until he now owns three hundred and twenty acres. Both he and his wife are still hale and hearty at very advanced ages. They are devout members of the Lutheran church and were associated with other citizens of the township in founding the church. Mr. Olson's father is a devoted Republican. Mr. Olson is the youngest of five children, the others being: Oliver, who is a former probate judge and also probate clerk of Otter Tail county, is engaged in the insurance business at Fergus Falls; Christine, who married J. N. Langsjoen, lives at Norman, Washington; the third child died in infancy, and O. E., who is a farmer at Berg, North Dakota.

C. E. Olson was educated in the public schools of Otter Tail county, in the Fergus Falls high school and in the Park Region Lutheran College at Fergus Falls. He graduated from the commercial department of the college in 1894, and, during the next five or six years, taught school in Otter Tail county. After his marriage, Mr. Olson returned to the old homestead, where he has lived ever since. In 1911 he purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land, a part of the old homestead, and now operates not only his own land, but the land owned by his father. He is engaged in diversified farming.

Mr. Olson is president of the Underwood creamery and was one of the organizers of this association. He is also secretary of the Park Region Telephone Company and treasurer of the Underwood Grain Association, which was organized several years ago, but which has recently taken on added importance owing to the erection of a new elevator in 1913 and 1914. The elevator has a capacity of thirty thousand bushels of grain and is owned by forty-four shareholders. It does an annual business of one hundred and twenty thousand dollars.

On March 18, 1899, Mr. Olson was married to Hannah Holbeck, the daughter of P. N. Holbeck, whose family history is contained elsewhere in this volume. Mr. and Mrs. Olson have two children, Alvin E., born on May 5, 1900, and Herman P., born on March 23, 1902.

C. E. Olson is identified with the Republican party. Fraternally, he is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Modern Woodmen of America. Mr. and Mrs. Olson are members of the Lutheran church and they not only attend services regularly, but contribute liberally to the support of the church in this township.

OLE H. NODSLE.

Recognized as an authority on affairs pertaining to general farming and stock raising, Ole Nodsle occupies an enviable position in the industrial life of Otter Tail county, Minnesota, where he has been a resident for over thirty years. He is a native of Hedemarken, Norway, having been born there on April 13, 1859. His father, Hans Nodsle, was born in the same country, on the 12th of September, 1826, and his mother, Bertha (Dyreson) Nodsle, on the 29th of March, 1827. His parents were married in their native land and in 1880 came to America, where Ole Nodsle had already established his residence. Upon arriving in this country Hans Nodsle took a claim of one hundred and sixty acres of land in Maplewood township, located in section 24, where he and his son, Ole, worked at the occupation of clearing the land and building cabins of logs. In 1889 Hans Nodsle sold his farm to the son who had assisted him, but continued to occupy the residence until his death, on September 2, 1914. His wife, who passed away on August 30, 1910, was survived by the following children: Dena, the wife of Andrew Elton, who is a resident of Kidder county, North Dakota; Ole, who is the subject of this sketch; Julia, Mrs. Thomas Nelson, a resident of Kidder county, North Dakota; Annie, Mrs. Alfred Olson, who resides in Clay county, Minnesota, and John, who is a farmer and a resident of Clay county.

Ole Nodsle received his education in the public schools of Norway, and at the age of twenty sailed for America. He was unaccompanied by friends or relatives, and after his arrival in this country went directly to Otter Tail county, Minnesota, where he was employed on the farms near Rothsay for over three years. He assisted his father during the first few years of the latter's stay in this country. Since purchasing the old home place, in 1889, Ole Nodsle has continued to add to his possessions until now he has a farm of two hundred and forty acres, forty acres of which are in an excellent state of cultivation. In 1900 he erected a modern dwelling on the farm, which he uses as his present residence. He has also made a number of valuable improvements on the stock buildings of the farm.

On June 11, 1886, the marriage of Ole Nodsle to Lena Vasaason, the daughter of Christian and Dorothy Vasaason, natives of Norway, took place. Mrs. Nodsle is also a native of Hedemarken, Norway. She and her husband have reared an interesting family, in which the following children are numbered: Harry, who is employed in North Dakota, but who owns a homestead in Beltrami county; Christian, who resides on a homestead in Beltrami county; Betsey, the wife of Hjalmar Stenseth, who lives in North Dakota; David, John, Oscar, Clara, Lewis, Martin, Alfred and Bennie, who reside on the home place.

Mr. Nodsle is a man who has always entered heartily into the affairs of the community in which he lives. He was instrumental in organizing the Erbard Farmers Creamery, and for some years acted as director of the same concern. He helped to organize the Maplewood Telephone Company, of which he is now president. In politics, Mr. Nodsle is an independent voter and has served as road supervisor for the last twenty years. For twelve years he has been director of the school district. His church membership is given to the Lutheran church.

CHARLES M. DOLSEN.

Born in Schuyler county, Illinois, January 21, 1850, Charles M. Dolsen, a well-to-do farmer of Inman township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, is a son of Charles M., Sr., and Mary E. Dolsen, who were early settlers of the state of Illinois. Mr. Dolsen's father was a merchant, who died in 1852, while his mother died in 1862. Charles M. Dolsen, Sr., and wife were the parents of seven children, Albert, John, Mary, Catharine, Margaret, Celia and Charles M., Jr.

Charles M. Dolsen was ten years of age when he went to Minneapolis, Minnesota, to make his home with Mr. and Mrs. William Moffet, the former of whom was his brother-in-law, having married Mr. Dolsen's sister, Mary. Charles M. Dolsen received his education in the public schools of Minneapolis, and when old enough learned the cooper's trade in that city. He lived in Minneapolis until 1880, when he removed to Otter Tail county and purchased eighty acres of land in Elmo township. He sold this farm and in 1893 moved to Inman township, where he purchased one hundred and twenty acres, in section 22. A little later he sold this second farm and purchased eighty acres of land in the same section and township, and here he is living today. He has built a new and modern residence on this farm, and has otherwise improved it in many ways.

In 1879 Mr. Dolsen was married in Minneapolis to Mary E. McLeod, who was born in Clearwater, Minnesota, but who lived in Minneapolis. Mrs. Dolsen's parents were John and Mary (Perkins) McLeod, the former of whom was born in New Brunswick, Maine, in 1814, and the latter of whom was born at Topsham, Maine, about 1824. They emigrated to Minneapolis in the fifties, and from that city removed to Clearwater, Minnesota, where they conducted a hotel. Later they returned to Minneapolis, and were the proprietors of the Tremont house. From the latter city they returned again to Clearwater, where they were engaged in the hotel business for a short time until 1868, when they removed to Alexandria, Minnesota. After living in Alexandria for three years they moved to Garden City, and here kept a hotel for one year, after which they lived on a farm. The family later

returned to Alexandria, where they conducted a boarding house. After living in Alexandria for about a year, they went to Melrose, and kept a hotel there for a year, when they returned to Minneapolis and kept a boarding house. In 1879 the family emigrated to Helena, Montana, and here Mrs. Dolsen's father died in 1884, while her mother died in California in 1910. John and Mary McLeod were the parents of ten children, four of whom are now living, as follow: Mrs. Celeste Heaton, of Rice, Minnesota; Mrs. Charles M. Dolsen, wife of the subject of this sketch; Mrs. Lucy Bucke, of Pasadena, California, and Mrs. Jessie Thompson, of San Jose, California.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles M. Dolsen are the parents of five children, as follow: Charles Edwin, James Mortimer, deceased; Mary Ethel, William Oscar and Ray Addis. Mary Ethel is the widow of Lewis Wait, who died in 1912, leaving four children, Amherst Douglas, Asenath Coral, Lloyd Leroy and Louis Agnes Alma.

Mr. and Mrs. Dolsen and family are prominent in the life of the community where they live, and they have a host of friends in Inman township, where they have made their home for so many years.

CHARLES PAULSON.

Charles Paulson, who has succeeded in a large measure as a farmer of Nidaros township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, and who is a native of Norway, was born there on February 4, 1858. Mr. Paulson is a son of Frederick and Mina Paulson, both of whom were born in Norway, and spent their entire lives in that country. They were the parents of seven children, two of whom died early in life, while two others, Bertha and Frederick, are deceased. The living children are Charles, Anna and Clara.

The eldest child of his parents' family, Charles Paulson was educated in the public schools of Norway. When Mr. Paulson was twenty-three years old, in 1881, he came to America, and for some time worked at various occupations in Otter Tail county. He worked one summer in Canada. In 1894 Mr. Paulson purchased one hundred and twenty acres of land in section 20, of Nidaros township, and shortly thereafter erected buildings on the farm. He is a general farmer and stockman, and has been very successful in all the aspects of farming in this county.

In 1888, seven years after coming to America, Mr. Paulson was married to Anges Olson, who was born in Norway, December 12, 1867, and who is a daughter of Svend and Matilda Olson, the former of whom died in Norway, and the latter came after her husband's death in 1873, to Goodhue county, Minnesota. Mrs. Paulson's mother died in Minneapolis, Minnesota, in 1889. Mrs. Paulson was the only child born to her mother's first mar-

riage. After the death of her father, her mother was married to Christ Hanson, and to this union one child was born, Nettie.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Paulson are the parents of seven children, all of whom are living, as follow: Anna, Minnie, Frederick, Clara, Mabel, Myrtle and Thorfin. The Paulson family is highly respected and esteemed in Nidaros township, where all the members of the family are well known.

Mr. Paulson is known not only as a successful farmer, but he has been more or less prominent in politics, having served as treasurer of the school board for more than ten years.

COLBEN M. SORKNESS.

Born in Norway on January 6, 1864, Colben M. Sorkness, a well-to-do farmer of Henning township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, is the son of Martin Christiansen and Oleana (Halversen) Christiansen, who were natives of Norway and who were married in that country prior to the time they emigrated to America. They came to this country in 1871 and settled in Otter Tail county, taking up a homestead farm of one hundred and sixty acres in Eagle Lake township. The father of Mr. Sorkness died in Eagle Lake township in 1896 and his wife nine years later, in January, 1905. Of their ten children, two, Gunda and Martha, are deceased. The living children are: Halver M., Knut, Colben M., Peter, Mary, Otto, George and Minnie.

Colben M. Sorkness was reared on the old homestead farm in Eagle Lake township and educated in the public schools of the township. When he was old enough he took up farming on the old home farm, but, subsequently, purchased eighty acres in section 33, of Henning township, in 1822. Mr. Sorkness has added to this farm until he now owns three hundred and twenty acres situated in sections 28, 29, 32 and 33. Mr. Sorkness has a natural grove on his home farm and has cleared practically all of the land, one hundred and sixty acres. He built a magnificent barn, thirty-four by seventy-two feet, in 1914, and also has a good house. He has a silo twelve by twenty-six feet, which is extensively used in his cattle business. Mr. Sorkness has made a specialty of breeding and raising Holstein cattle. He is a stockholder in the creamery at Henning and the farmers elevator, also at Henning.

In 1900 Colben M. Sorkness was married to Lena Olson, and to them was born one son, Otto, now deceased. Mrs. Lena Sorkness died on March 1, 1903, and on August 27, 1904, Mr. Sorkness was married to Hannah Trangsrud, who was born in Norway on May 7, 1877, but, who at the time of her marriage was Mrs. E. B. Anderson, of North Dakota. By this second marriage there have been born five children, of whom one, Harris, is

deceased. The living children are: Hilda, Chester, Lilian and Agnes. By her first marriage, Mrs. Sorkness was the mother of two children, Selmer B. and Beatrice.

Mrs. Sorkness is the daughter of Arne H. and Bolette Trangsrud, both of whom were natives of Norway. Mrs. Sorkness's father was born in 1849 and her mother in 1852. They were married in Norway and, upon their arrival in America, settled in Cass county, North Dakota, in 1882. After living in that county for one year, they moved to Sargent county, North Dakota, and purchased a farm of one hundred and sixty acres. Mrs. Sorkness's father now owns six hundred and forty acres of land.

To Mr. and Mrs. Arne H. Trangsrud were born ten children, five of whom, Hannah, Bernhard, Agnes, Emelia and Amelia, twins, were born in Norway, and five in North Dakota, Bernhard, Agnes, Alfred, Henry and John. Of these children, Bernhard, Agnes, Emelia, Amelia and Henry are deceased.

Mr. and Mrs. Colben M. Sorkness are members of the Free Lutheran church. Mr. Sorkness is a very successful farmer and, having begun to buy land when he was eighteen years old, has made a most praiseworthy success. He is not only one of the leading farmers of Henning township, but one of the leading citizens of Otter Tail county.

HON. ALVINZA BAXTER COLE, M. D.

Among those who stand as distinguished types of the world's workers is Dr. Alvinza Baxter Cole, a well-known physician and surgeon of Fergus Falls, who is now serving his fourth term as the mayor of the city. He is the Nestor of the Otter Tail county Medical profession, a man of fine intellectual and professional attainments and of most gracious personality and is clearly entitled to rank, not only as the best-known physician of Otter Tail county, but as one of its most enterprising citizens.

Doctor Cole is a native of Canton, St. Lawrence county, New York, where he was born on December 30, 1848, son of Oltas C. and Alvira (Johnson) Cole, the former of whom was a farmer by occupation.

It was upon the farm that Doctor Cole was born and reared. He received his education at the Canton Academy and, soon after completing the course in that institution, entered the office of Dr. Sanford Hoag. In 1879 he was graduated from the New York Homeopathic College and in the same year purchased Dr. Hoag's entire practice and continued on his own account in the practice of medicine there until 1881, when he came to Minnesota and settled at Fergus Falls, where for nearly thirty-five years he has been engaged in the active practice of medicine. Doctor Cole is deeply interested in all phases of public questions and has taken a most prominent



HON. ALVINZA BAXTER COLE, M. D.

part in the political life of Otter Tail county. From 1804 to 1898 he served as a member of the Minnesota Senate and four years later was re-elected to a second term of four years. During the Spanish-American War, Doctor Cole was surgeon of the Fourteenth Minnesota Regiment, with the rank of major. Doctor Cole is a member of the Park Region Medical Society and a member of the Masonic fraternity. He joined the Masonic lodge at Hermon, New York, and upon locating at Fergus Falls demitted to Corner Stone Lodge No. 99. Doctor Cole also is a member of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks.

Many years ago Doctor Cole was married to Effie E. Westcott, who was born at Hermon, New York, daughter of John and Frances (Hemenway) Westcott. Doctor and Mrs. Cole have adopted three sons and one daughter. Of these children, Carl V. Cole is now a physician in Lake City, Minnesota. He married Ann Seeley and they have two children. Claud L. Cole is a practicing dentist at Alexandria, Minnesota. He married Tena Raiter, and they have one daughter. Herbert E. Cole is a physician and surgeon of Mobile, Alabama. He married Jesse Wells, of Canton, New York. They have no children. Ester Monson married Dr. Theodore N. Kittelson, of Fergus Falls. She died in 1913.

In the history of Otter Tail county Dr. A. B. Cole is entitled to a high rank. He has won distinction in the medical profession and in political life because he has devoted himself unselfishly to the best interests of his fellow men.

ZEBA WRIGHT.

Zeba Wright, for the past twenty-five or thirty years township clerk, is the type of man who reminds us that agriculture, no less than other industries, is demanding better farmers today, in order to keep step with the onward march of civilization. Mr. Wright has always kept abreast with the times and is in the vanguard of the farming industry as pursued in this county. Mr. Wright, a native of Rock county, Wisconsin, was born in the township of Johnstown on September 23, 1840, and is the son of Wesley and Thankful (Campbell) Wright.

The Wright family was an old and honored one and it was for them that the village of Wrightstown was named. Many of its early settlers were connected with it and several uncles of Zeba Wright built their homes on what was then wild land, near enough together to form a settlement later. Wesley Wright was born in Greene county, New York state, and his wife was born near Niagara Falls. Both were single when they went to Wisconsin and met and were married in 1848, settling in the township of

Johnstown, where he began to cultivate the small farm which he owned. In 1876 he and his wife and their only child traveled to Wadena, Minnesota, where they packed their household goods in wagons and started for this township, where they took up a soldier's homestead of one hundred and sixty acres in section 12. This was possible because of his services in Company F, Thirteenth Regiment, Wisconsin Infantry. He was in active service for a while, but illness kept him much of the time in the hospital. On their frontier wilderness, these stout-hearted people established their new home in a log cabin, which Mr. Wright built on the east side of his quarter section. The land was heavily covered with timber, but a stout heart and a resolute will accomplished what seemed at first almost impossible. This was the family home for many years, and by good methods became a valuable source of livelihood for Mr. and Mrs. Wright and their family. The former lived to the ripe old age of eighty-one, dying on the farm on section 12, and his good wife died in North Dakota in 1910. Mr. Wright was an active politician, allying himself with the Democratic party. He and his wife belonged to the Free-Will Baptist church. Their children were Zeba and Miranda; the latter married Jefferson Wheeler and died while still a young woman, living in Wisconsin.

Zeba Wright was a youth when the war broke out, and too young to enlist. Having gone to the nearest country school, he varied his schooling with farm work and at the age of twenty-six moved to Minnesota with his young wife, to whom he was married on April 16, 1876. Mrs. Wright was, before her marriage, Annette Ely, a native of New York state, but at that time a resident of Wisconsin. After living with his father for four years, Mr. Wright bought eighty acres of the homestead of the southern section and converted a wild frontier into productive fields. He later built a modern frame house, whose attractiveness is enhanced by an avenue of spruce and balsams leading to it from the road. Mr. Wright soon was recognized as a successful general farmer and stock raiser. Years of toil and frugality have enabled him to live in comparative ease and retirement for more than three years past, during which time he has rented his farm to tenants.

To Mr. and Mrs. Wright were born three children, Charles, who is now engaged in small fruit raising, was formerly a jeweler. He now lives in Deer Wood, Minnesota, and is the father of two daughters. Archie the second son, was killed in an accident when a young man; Ray passed away about 1912, leaving two daughters.

Mr. Wright, who is a Prohibitionist in his political tendencies, has been for nearly thirty years township clerk and has also served many terms as school director and also as town treasurer. Both he and his wife are members of the United Brethren church, in which Mrs. Wright takes an active

part. The long tenure of office with which Mr. Wright has been honored, speaks volumes regarding his trustworthiness as a public official. Public duty is to him a sacred obligation, and in repayment for the confidence of his fellowmen, Mr. Wright has rendered efficient and honorable service.

JACOB ERKKILA.

Jacob Erkkila, well-known and prominent farmer of Otto township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, was born in Finland, in the year 1847, the son of Michael and Elsie Erkkila, both of whom were natives of Finland. Michael Erkkila was a farmer of his native country, where he died in 1893, at the age of seventy-one years. His widow, Elsie, after the death of her husband, came to America and located in Otto township, where she lived until her death in 1908, aged eighty years. Michael and Elsie Erkkila were the parents of four children, Jacob, Matthew, Kate and Erica.

Jacob Erkkila received his education in the schools of Finland, after which he came to America, in the year 1871, and following a short residence in the state of Michigan, he came, in 1881, to Otter Tail county, Minnesota, and bought a farm of one hundred and sixty acres of land in section 22, Otto township, where he now lives engaged in general agricultural pursuits.

In 1881, Jacob Erkkila was married, while a resident of Michigan, to Lizzie Rusanen, who was born in Finland in 1857. To this marriage have been born the following children: Emanuel, Jacob (deceased), Ulivia, Leo (deceased), Matthew (deceased), Annie, John, Albert, William (deceased), Natha, Joseph, Mannie, Martha (deceased) and Peter.

NELS EDHOLM.

Born in Sweden on August 10, 1850, Nels Edholm, a prosperous farmer of Inman township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, is the son of Erick Erickson and Martha Edholm, both of whom were born in Sweden, where Mr. Edholm's father died in 1881. His mother had died previously in 1880. They had a family of nine children, of whom Anna, the second born, and Engle, the seventh, are deceased. The living children are, Nathaniel, Bertha, Nels, Peter, Martha, Erick and Ingrid.

Nels Edholm was educated in the public schools of his native land and came to America, settling in Otter Tail county, in 1893. Shortly after coming to Otter Tail county, Mr. Edholm purchased eighty acres of land in section 11, of Inman township. Mr. Edholm's two sons, Erick and John, have added one hundred and twenty acres to the original farm so that it now consists of two hundred acres, all situated in section 11. Mr. Edholm has cleared his farm and erected good buildings upon the land.

Many years ago, Nels Edholm was married in Sweden to Sophia Anderson, who was born in 1861 and who is the daughter of Thomas and Margaret Anderson, both of whom are deceased. Mrs. Edholm's father died in 1894 and her mother in 1910. Mr. and Mrs. Nels Edholm have been the parents of fourteen children, of whom three are deceased. Ingrid, the eldest, died many years ago. Othalia died on April 3, 1912, and Lillian died on April 4, 1912. The living children are Erick, John, Otto, Ingrid, Alma, Hilma, Clara, Evelyn, Elma, Arthur and Elvin.

Mr. and Mrs. Nels Edholm are members of the Swedish Lutheran church of Compton township. They have always taken a very active interest in religious affairs and are among the prominent farmers and citizens of Inman township.

FREDRICK DUNKER.

Fredrick Dunker, successful farmer and well-known citizen of Otter Tail township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, was born in Hanover, Germany, on February 9, 1876, the son of Henry and Dorothy (Blume) Dunker, natives of Hanover, Germany. Henry Dunker was a brick-layer in his native country, an occupation which, together with farming, he followed for some years and then came to America, where he lived with his son for some time. Henry and Dorothy (Blume) Dunker were the parents of one child, Fredrick, the subject of this sketch. By a former marriage, Henry Dunker was the father of three children, Dick, Mary and Dorothy. The elder Dunker died on December 24, 1903.

Frederick Dunker was educated in the public schools of his native country, after which he came to America in 1890, and worked as a farm helper for ten years and then, in 1900, he secured two hundred and twenty acres of land in sections 33 and 34, of Otter Tail township, a place which Mr. Dunker has greatly improved and a farm, one hundred acres of which he has cleared of timber and has prepared for cultivation. Mr. Dunker now engages in general agricultural pursuits on his land in Otter Tail township.

On November 10, 1906, Fredrick Dunker was married to Catherine Luhnig, the daughter of Henry Luhnig and wife, well-known people of the community. To the marriage of Fredrick and Catherine Dunker have been born four children, Henry, Wilma, Olga and Arthur. Fredrick Dunker and his family are active and appreciated members of the German Lutheran church, of Otter Tail township.

Mr. Dunker is a man well known in the public life of Otter Tail township, he for many years having been actively engaged in the support of the progressive measures and movements of the community. At the present

time Mr. Dunker is serving his township as assessor, an office which he has occupied for seven years, and he is also acting as the chairman of the township board.

GILBERT G. MOEN.

Gilbert G. Moen, a well-to-do farmer of Sverdrup township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, was born in Norway on June 23, 1855. Mr. Moen is a son of Gulbrand G. Moen and Rangli Erickson (Skatebo) Moen, both of whom were born in Norway, and both of whom died in that country.

In 1883 Gilbert G. Moen came to America, and settled in Sverdrup township, Otter Tail county, where he subsequently purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land, and it is upon this farm that Mr. Moen now lives. He has erected all of the buildings which now stand on the farm, and which are now used, including the house in which the Moen family now live. Mr. Moen has also cleared the land of trees and stumps, and has put it under cultivation. It is a very fertile farm, and Mr. Moen raises crops equal to any raised in this part of the county.

In 1876, before coming to America, Mr. Moen was married to Berit Haldorson, who was born in Norway, June 10, 1854. Mrs. Moen's parents died in their native land. Gilbert G. Moen and wife are the parents of eight children, as follow: Gilbert, Haldor, Edwin, Martin, Olaf, Carl, May and Ida, all of whom are living. Gilbert and Haldor live in Underwood; Edwin, in Duluth; Martin lives on a farm in Sverdrup; the others live at home.

The Moen family are all members of the Unitarian church at Underwood, Minnesota. Mr. Moen is a stockholder in the Co-operative Creamery Company, and in the co-operative store at Underwood. He is one of the well-to-do farmers of Sverdrup township, and one of its most highly respected and substantial citizens.

PETER LINDER.

Peter Linder, a prosperous farmer of Nidaros township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, was born in Sweden, July 7, 1846, and is a son of Erick and Betsey Olson, both of whom were also natives of Sweden, where they spent their entire lives.

Peter Linder received his educational training in the public schools of his native country, and in 1867 emigrated to America, working first in Anoka county, Minnesota. Later he spent sixteen months in Rice county, Minnesota, working on a farm, after which he lived in Minneapolis for a time. In 1871 Mr. Linder came to Nidaros township, Otter Tail county, and took a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres in section 34, and here

he has since lived. In 1803 he erected a magnificent barn, fifty by twenty-four feet in dimensions. Seven years later he built a substantial and comfortable residence, and in many other ways has improved his farm, always keeping his buildings and fences in good repair and well painted. Mr. Linder is an up-to-date and progressive farmer, and has been successful since coming to this county.

On October 4, 1872, about five years after coming to the United States, Peter Linder was married to Sarah Johnson, a native of Sweden, born in that country in 1844. Mrs. Linder came to Otter Tail county, in 1867, and five years later was married to Mr. Linder. To this union have been born eight children, of whom six are deceased, Alexander, Emma, Bessie, Ada, Josephine and Bettsy. The living children are Charles and Oscar, both of whom are farmers in North Dakota. The mother of these children died on May 17, 1902, and two years later, on June 21, 1904, Mr. Linder was married to Matilda Johnson, who had two children, a daughter and a son. The daughter, Mrs. Brunsell, is now living at Ashland, Wisconsin; the son, John, is staying at home.

Mr. Linder and family are members of the Eagle Lake Swedish Lutheran church, in which they take an active and interested part.

JOHN HAGLUND.

Among the well-known farmers and stock raisers of Scambler township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, is John Haglund, who was born in Sweden, on September 16, 1864, the son of Erick and Anna Haglund, natives of Sweden. Erick Haglund died in the year 1868, after which his widow, Anna, was married, secondly, to Hans Berglund. John and Anna Haglund were the parents of the following children, Nels, John, and August, twins; Abraham and Anna.

John Haglund was educated in the public schools of Sweden, after which he came to America, in the year 1893, and settled in Otter Tail county, where he bought sixty acres of land in Pelican township, on which he lived for a short time and then disposing of his land, Mr. Haglund purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land in Mahnomen county. He disposed of his land in Mahnomen and bought one hundred and sixty acres of land in sections 13 and 14, Scambler township, a place which he improved with new buildings and equipment and a farm on which he now lives as a general farmer and stock raiser.

In 1897, John Haglund was married to Frances Davis, who was born in Rock Elm, Pierce county, Minnesota, in 1879. She is the daughter of Robert and Adella Davis, natives of Ohio and Wisconsin, respectively. To the marriage of John and Frances Haglund have been born the following

children, Annetta, Robert (deceased), Albertina, Hazel, Harold, Melvin, Mary and Earl.

John Haglund has taken a prominent place in the business life of Scambler township and the vicinity; he is a stockholder in the Farmers' Elevator Company, of Pelican Rapids, as well as being a stockholder in the Farmers Co-operative Creamery Company, of Pelican Rapids, Minnesota.

ALVA L. SHAW.

Alva L. Shaw, farmer and prominent citizen of Otter Tail township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, was born in Mower county, Minnesota, on August 11, 1865, the son of Darius N. and Sylvia (Wood) Shaw, natives of New York state.

Darius N. Shaw came to the state of Minnesota, from his native state of New York, in 1852, and settled in Mower county, where he secured one hundred and sixty acres of land, on which he made his home for two years and then disposing of his land, the elder Shaw moved to Otter Tail county, and purchased one hundred and two acres of land in section 24, Otter Tail township, a farm which he cultivated for some time and then traded his land for "Sandy Beach," making his home there for a time, after which he moved to the town of Otter Tail, where he now lives.

Alva L. Shaw received his education in the public schools of Otter Tail township, after which he became a farmer. He rented a farm for some time and then in 1900 purchased eighty acres of land, a place which Mr. Shaw has greatly improved and on which he now makes his home, as a general farmer.

On May 22, 1895, Alva L. Shaw was married to May Taylor, and to this marriage were born four children, Marvin, Ruth, Eleanor and Flora. By a former marriage to Bessie Hemstreet, on July 11, 1891, Mr. Shaw is the father of one daughter, Bessie. Mr. Shaw's first wife died on February 23, 1894.

As a public man, Mr. Shaw has served his township as clerk for fourteen years and for ten years has been chairman of the township board.

EMANUEL M. JOHNSON.

Emanuel M. Johnson, a native of Sweden, was born on February 21, 1814, and was the son of John and Christena Johnson, both of whom lived and died in their native country.

John Johnson was a day laborer and for twenty-five years served as a soldier in the army of his country. He was an active member of the Swedish Lutheran church and took much interest in all church work. Mrs. Johnson

previous to her marriage to Mr. Johnson was the wife of Solomon Larson and to this union four children were born; Solomon, N. N., Miestine and Sarah.

Emanuel M. Johnson, the only child of John and Christena Johnson, received his education in Sweden, having come to America at the age of twenty-five, in 1870. After landing in New York City he came direct to Chicago where he remained for three years working on the street cars, being one of the first men to engage in that occupation in that city. Later he was employed by a railroad company where he remained for some time.

In 1873 Mr. Johnson homesteaded eighty acres of land in Otter Tail county and worked for others for a time. Later he bought more land and now owns two hundred and eighty acres which he has improved and developed, all the buildings having been built by him. The house was built in 1895 and the present barn was erected to replace one that burned some time ago. Mr. Johnson practices general farming and stock raising, having some of the finest Shorthorn cattle and Poland China hogs in the county.

In 1878 Emanuel M. Johnson was married to Mary Anderson, a native of Sweden and the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. P. A. Anderson, who had located in Minnesota. They are the parents of the following children: Theodore, Gottfred, Oscar, Olga and Lilly. Mrs. Johnson died on July 9, 1914. Olga is the wife of John Pearson and they have two children. Theodore, the eldest of the family, a young man of much force and ability, is still at home. Gottfred and Oscar are operating the home farm. Gottfred Johnson was married on September 14, 1915, to Marie E. Johnson, a daughter of John Johnson, and a native of Sweden. Marie E. Johnson came to America in 1911 and located in Fergus Falls.

JOHN LIEN.

In the financial history of Otter Tail county, Minnesota, particular mention is but the just right of the gentleman whose name introduces this sketch. Mr. Lien is one of the self-made men of this county, having won his way to achievements to which many aspire, but few reach. He has set an example of industry and thrift that could well be followed to advantage by the rising generation.

John Lien, farmer, Battle Lake, Amor township, Otter Tail county, was born on July 28, 1864, in Faribault county, Minnesota, and is a son of J. J. and Sigri (Nordskog) Lien. His education was obtained at the public schools of the district, after which he took a normal course at Mankato, Minnesota, graduating at the end of three and one-half years. After completing his education, Mr. Lien taught school for five years in Otter Tail county, and one year at Battle Lake, where he occupied the position of

principal, and had entire charge of all the classes. After he took charge of the work, the school was rebuilt, and three teachers added to the educational staff. After his marriage, he located on a farm of eighty acres, which he had bought in the fall of 1889, where he has since resided, and to which he has continued to add, until he now owns a fine tract of five hundred and twenty-four acres of good agricultural land, all situated in Amor township. He has put extensive and valuable improvements on his place, including a substantial modern house and a new barn, erected in 1915.

The land at the time of purchase was mostly covered with timber, which Mr. Lien has cleared, and put in good agricultural condition. Politically, he has long been a loyal Republican, and has been active in local politics for many years, having held the office of town clerk for twenty-six years, and a member of the school board for twenty-one years. Religiously, he belongs to the Swedish Lutheran church of Amor township, while his fraternal alliance is with the Modern Woodmen of America and the Ancient Order of United Workmen. He is a director in the Sverdrup Insurance Company, with which he has been associated for the past nineteen years, and has held the office of president in the Otter Tail Co-operative Company for six years. He is president of the Telephone Company of Amor township. His particular interest on the farm is confined to the breeding and raising of Shorthorn cattle, of which he sells a great many each year.

J. J. Lien was born in Norway, and was united in marriage with Sigri Nordskog. He was educated in the old country, and came to America when about twenty-one years of age, landing at New York City, and moving direct to Iowa, where he was engaged as a day laborer at Spirit Lake, after which he squatted some land and did trapping and hunting until driven away by the Indians, after which he took up a homestead of one hundred and forty-three acres on the border of Lake Lura, near Delavan, Minnesota, where he spent the remainder of his life, his death occurring in June, 1880. His wife still lives on the home place, which is under the management of her son, Thomas J. Lien. The children born to J. J. and Sigri (Nordskog) Lien are as follow: John, Ole, Thomas J., Elias, Elizabeth (who died at the age of twenty-seven years), Peter, Alfred, Halvor, Eva, Caroline and Arnold. Of these children, Alfred and Halvor are in Canada: Arnold is teaching at Boulder, Colorado, in the State University. J. J. Lien was a member of the Lutheran church, in which he was a leader, always taking an active part in church work.

Joseph Lien, the paternal grandfather, was a farmer in Norway, where he lived and died.

John Lien was united in marriage, March 22, 1860, with Hannah Johnson, daughter of John Johnson. She was born on August 2, 1867, in

Sweden, and came with her parents to America, locating in Amor township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota. Eleven children have been born to this union: Clarence T., Sarah, Mabel, Bert, Anton, Arne, Halvor, Marvin, Rhoda, Kenneth and Forest. Of this family of children, those married are: Sarah, who became the wife of Andrew Larson, and Mabel, who was married to Gilbert Murk and lives in Amor township.

Mr. Lien occupies a position of prominence in Amor township, where he has trained his children to become honored and useful citizens and where he has many warm and admiring friends.

JOHN HANECAM.

A drive through the outskirts of Elizabeth, Minnesota, will take one past the prosperous and attractive looking farm of Mr. Hanecam, the gentleman whose name introduces this sketch, and whose name is well and prominently known in the agricultural district in which he resides. Nothing is more convincing of the prosperity of a farmer than the condition in which he keeps his building and fences, and in this direction Mr. Hanecam takes particular pride.

John Hanecam, farmer, Elizabeth township, Otter Tail county, was born on January 15, 1864, in Wisconsin, and is a son of Peter and Alice (Moe) Hanecam. He received his education at the public schools and has always followed farming, being the present manager of his father's farm, consisting of one hundred and sixty acres. Mr. Hanecam belongs to the Lutheran church.

Peter Hanecam, father of the subject of this sketch, was born on November 26, 1824, in Norway. His wife was Alice Moe, daughter of Lars Moe. She was born in Norway, and came with her parents to America, settling on a farm in Minnesota. Mr. Hanecam has followed farming nearly all his life. On his arrival in Minnesota, Mr. Hanecam selected Rochester for his home, in 1864, where he followed his trade of stone-mason until 1871. Both Mr. Hanecam and his wife are still living, and he is doubtless the oldest man in Elizabeth township, Otter Tail county. Their children were as follow: John, Hannah, Bertha, Louis (deceased), and Lena (deceased). Mr. Hanecam's farm is located in Elizabeth and Oscar townships, and consists of two hundred and forty acres. Politically, he has always given his support to the Democratic party, while his religious membership is with the Lutheran church. During his active agricultural pursuits, Mr. Hanecam gave considerable of his time and attention to stock raising, in which direction he was also very successful.

John Hanecam was united in marriage on June 1, 1888, with Christie Bjornud, who was a native of the old country. The children born to this

marriage are Louise and Theoline. Louise became the wife of Marvin Roghelt and is now living on the old homestead, and Theoline is a school teacher.

Mr. Hanecam is one of the substantial agriculturists of Otter Tail county, where he has built up a comfortable fortune for his declining years. Both he and his wife have won and retain the friendship of many warm friends in the community in which they reside.

EDWARD A. PECK, JR.

Edward A. Peck, Jr., is among those citizens who are entitled to a place of respect in the esteem of their fellowmen and whose efforts for the betterment of the community in which they live commend them. His birth occurred on May 19, 1880, on his father's homestead, located in section 24, Scambler township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota. He is the son of Edward A. and Sarah (Sischo) Peck.

Edward A. Peck, Sr., was born in Jefferson county, New York, and at the age of eight years, owing to the death of his mother, was placed in the care of A. P. Clark, with whom he made his home until the age of twenty-one years. At that time he was given one dollar and his freedom and, thus equipped, he became the arbiter of his own destiny. He soon married and immediately after became an employee of a cheese factory, in which service he remained for a period of two years, removing to Iowa in 1876. During their three years' sojourn in that state the great plague of grasshoppers so destroyed their crops that they were forced to seek habitation elsewhere, and in a covered wagon, drawn by oxen, they started northward, stopping for one month in Alexandria and then on to Becker county, Minnesota. Edward A. Peck, Sr., became interested in the draying business and remained in that line for a period of two years, also engaging in the teaming business, which was a flourishing trade in those days. He finally removed to Otter Tail county, Minnesota, where he purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land, under the homestead law, which was located in section 24, Scambler township, and which was partly cleared. The house was of logs but was soon remodeled into a very comfortable residence and the family remained in this home for two years, or until the place was entirely cleared preparatory to cultivation.

Shortly after this work was completed Mr. Peck accepted a position in Lake Park, as foreman for a Mr. Canfield, who owned large farming interests, and he remained in Mr. Canfield's service for sixteen consecutive years. After the death of Mr. Canfield, Edward A. Peck, Sr., became an employee of the younger Mr. Canfield and remained in his service for one year. At

the beginning of this seventeen years service Sarah (Sischo) Peck remained on the homestead with the children, of whom there were six, but her death occurred and the problem of caring for the family was solved by two of the daughters removing to Lake Park, where they were under the direct supervision of the father.

The Otter Tail county property was left in charge of the sons, whose efforts were so productive of results that the farm was gradually increased until it now contains six hundred and forty acres. The buildings are modern and among the best in the county. A specialty is made of breeding and raising pure strain Durham cattle, of which a herd of twenty head are kept. An herd of thirty head of the same stock is kept, which are not as perfect in strain as are the others.

In 1898 Edward A. Peck, Sr., became interested in the livery business, which he continued for three years, in Lake Park. He was also engaged in the hardware business for two years. A residence was built in Lake Park and both Edward A. Peck, Sr., and his second wife, Hattie (Randolph) Peck, made their home in this place. Hattie (Randolph) Peck is a native of Kingston, Canada.

Both Edward A. Peck, Sr., and his first wife were members of the Presbyterian church but he now attends the Methodist Episcopal church. He is a member of the Republican party. The names of the children born to his first union follow: Lilly, who became the wife of Stewart McCoy, and died while a resident of Larimore, North Dakota; Nellie, who became the wife of Jay Rider, and now lives at Portland, Oregon; Harry J., deceased, and who formerly had charge of the home place in Scambler township, where his death occurred; Mattie married George Tucker, and they make their home in Watson, Canada; Florence married Adolph Norby, and they live in Moorhead, Minnesota, and Edward A., Jr.

Edward A. Peck, Jr., received his education in the schools of Lake Park, graduating from the high school in that town. However, he was reared until the age of fifteen years on the place in Otter Tail county, Minnesota, at which time he assumed full charge of the home farm because of his brother, Harry J., wishing to begin independent operations for himself. Edward A. Peck, Jr., operated the farm for three summers, attending school in Lake Park in the winter. At the age of eighteen years he assumed charge of his father's hardware interests, which he continued for two years, renting the farm in the meantime. This arrangement was very unsatisfactory and the store was sold. He then became an employee on a farm in Becker county, Minnesota, on which he worked for one year, returning to the home place in 1903, which he has continued to cultivate ever since. In addition to the breeding and raising of high grade stock, a large amount of grain is

also grown. In 1915 the production of grain, raised on two hundred and thirty acres of this place, was three thousand six hundred bushels of oats, two thousand six hundred bushels of wheat, seven hundred bushels of rye and two thousand bushels of barley.

On January 11, 1905, Edward A. Peck, Jr., was united in marriage to Anna Lillie Schannach, and to their union have been born three children, whose names follow: William Donald, Edward Aaron and Wilfrid Ira. Lillian Schannach is the daughter of Ira Schannach, an harness-maker, who has resided in Becker county, Minnesota, for forty years. She is a native of that county. Politically, Edward A. Peck, Jr., is a Republican. Anna Lillie (Schannach) Peck is a member of the Catholic church and is an active worker in that denomination.

HAAGEN HAAGENSON.

Haagen Haagenson is a native of Norway and was born in that country on September 8, 1850. He is the son of Haagen and Kari (Anderson) Haagenson, also natives of Norway. The father was a blacksmith and followed that vocation until his death, after which his wife emigrated to America and married Magna Samson. Haagen Haagenson received his education in the schools of his native land and emigrated to America in 1877, following which he located in Dakota county, Minnesota, remaining there for three years. In 1880 he removed to Otter Tail county, Minnesota, and purchased forty acres of land, to which he has since added until he now owns five hundred acres. This farm is devoted to general agriculture and stock raising and is well improved. In 1915 a new barn was erected, which adds much to the beauty of the place. Haagen Haagenson was united in marriage to Matilda Anderson, and they are the parents of eight children, whose names follow: Henry, Alfred, Melvin, Alma, Mabel, Loyd, Minnie and Helmer. Haagen Haagenson and his wife are members of the Norwegian Lutheran church.

Magna Samson, stepfather of Haagen Haagenson, was born on November 3, 1838, in Bergen, Norway, and is the son of Peter and Betsey (Sater) Samson, both natives of Norway. Peter Samson was a farmer of Norwayvoss, and emigrated to America in 1841, locating in LaSalle county, Illinois. He remained in that place for five years and then removed to Dane county, Wisconsin, near the town of Madison (now the state capital), where he lived until 1854. He then removed to Dakota county, Minnesota, where he remained for ten years, and was one of the pioneers of that section. He was the father of two sons, Samuel, who died at sea, and Magna.

Magna Samson received his education in the common schools of Dane county, Wisconsin, and Dakota county, Minnesota. As a young man he

enlisted in Company B, of the Fourteenth Missouri Sharpshooters, and served in the battles of Mt. Zion Church, Missouri; the taking of Ft. Henry, Tennessee; Ft. Donelson, and was at the famous battle of Shiloh, April 6 and 7, 1862; at Corinth, Mississippi, in the spring of and again in the fall of 1862, and at the battles of Buzzard Roost, Resaca and Kenesaw Mountain. He was honorably discharged in 1863, but re-enlisted and served until the end of the war, taking part in the Atlanta campaign and was with Sherman on the march to the sea. Mr. Samson accompanied his regiment through North and South Carolina and Virginia in 1865, and was present at the Grand Review, at Washington, D. C. He was wounded four times, on two occasions being sent to a hospital in Georgia. For his faithful service and gallant conduct he receives a pension from the United States government of thirty dollars a month. After the war Mr. Samson continued to lead a strenuous life—exploring, hunting, trapping, fishing, locating settlers and surveying—from the effects of which he is somewhat crippled.

Magna Samson became surveyor of Dakota county, Minnesota, serving two terms of two years each. In 1880 he removed to Leaf Mountain township, Otter Tail county, where he homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of land on which he now lives. His second wife was Mrs. Kari (Anderson) Haagenonson, and to them have been born these children: Betsey, wife of Axel Fieldset; Carrie, wife of Iven Jacobson, and Anna, wife of Morton Jacobson. Mr. Samson is a member of the Norwegian Lutheran church and is a Republican. He has served as township clerk, chairman of the township board and postmaster. He was appointed justice of the peace and served in that capacity for many years. He is a loyal member of the Grand Army of the Republic and one of the pioneers of Otter Tail county.

OLE JOHNSON.

Having been born and educated in Skane, Sweden, Mr. Johnson, like many others of his native country, has combined the thrifty habits of his ancestors with the modern progressiveness of America, making a combination difficult to beat, viewing it from a standpoint of financial success.

Ole Johnson, farmer, Eagle Bend, Eastern township, Otter Tail county, was born October 20, 1860, in Skane, Sweden, and is a son of Johan and Mattha (Nelson) Person. His education was obtained in the public schools of Sweden, from which country he came to America in 1887, locating at once in Eastern township, Otter Tail county, where he bought his present farm in 1891, consisting of one hundred and sixty acres in section 25, all of which was in timber and had to be grubbed. He has put all the improvements on his place, and now has some good buildings. Mr. Johnson divides his time and attention between general farming and stock raising, and keeps

a large number of dairy cows. Religiously, he is a member of the Swedish Lutheran church, of which he has served as deacon and officiated as secretary for the past three or four years.

Johan Person, father of Ole Johnson, was born in Sweden, where he was a laborer and where he spent his entire life. His wife was Mattha Nelson. This marriage was blest with three children, Ole, Andrew and Nels.

Ole Johnson was united in marriage in 1885 with Ingar Nelson, born in Skane, Sweden, and by whom he has had nine children, two being dead. The living children are John, Martha, Anna, Esther, Ernest, Arvid and Oliva. John Johnson was united in marriage, December 31, 1912, with Christiana Skyburg, by whom he has had one child, Leona V. Johnson. John Johnson received his early education at the public schools of Eastern township, and later attended the Northeastern College at Fergus Falls, Minnesota. In 1907 he established the Round House at Duluth, and in 1909, he engaged as a fireman at Two Harbors, where he remained until the fall of 1912. He now owns his own farm of eighty acres in Eastern township, in section 24, near his father's place, where he follows general farming and stock raising.

Ole Johnson has reared his children along the lines of usefulness, and has always impressed upon them the importance of leading lives that would result in holding positions of the highest respect in their community. Both he and his wife enjoy the friendship of a large number of warm friends.

CARL BERG.

Born in Norway, February 10, 1870, Carl Berg, who, with his brother, Martin, owns two hundred and forty acres of land in Everts township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, and who with his mother, owns eighty acres of land in Everts township, is a well-known farmer and stockman.

Mr. Berg is a son of Anton C. and Anne (Glende) Berg, both of whom were natives of Norway, the former of whom was born in 1839, and the latter in 1845. They were married in Norway, and in the spring of 1880 settled in Otter Tail county, Minnesota, purchasing one hundred and sixty acres of land, also homesteading seventy-three acres. Mr. Berg's father died on the old homestead farm in 1897. His mother, who is a devout member of the Lutheran church, is still living. Carl Berg is the second child in a family of ten children. The others, in the order of their birth, are as follow: Annete, Martin, Ole W., Anna, Inga, Emma, Sophia, Alfred and Karen, all of whom are living with the exception of the eldest born.

Educated in the public schools of Norway, which he attended until he was ten years of age, Mr. Berg came to Everts township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, with his parents, and after coming to this country was a student

in the public schools of his home township for a time. He is a well-known farmer and stockman of this community, and with his brother, Martin, has an interest in two hundred and forty acres of land, and with his mother an interest in eighty acres more in Everts township.

In 1908 Carl Berg was married to Lina Larson, who was born in Norman county, Minnesota, in 1884, and who is a daughter of Lars Larson, a successful farmer of Everts township. Mr. and Mrs. Berg have no children. They are earnest and devout members of the Lutheran church, and take an active and interested part in the work of the church, and are prominent in social and civic affairs in the community where they live.

LEONARD ERIKSSON.

Among the most successful lawyers of Fergus Falls, and especially among the younger lawyers who have attained a large measure of success, is Leonard Eriksson, a native of Vesterå, Sweden. He was born on November 11, 1876, son of August Herman and Anna Matilda (Person) Eriksson. Having attended school regularly in his native land, Leonard Eriksson was well advanced in his studies at the age of fourteen years when he came to America. After landing at Quebec, he came to the state of Minnesota and settled in Warren, Marshall county, where he arrived in 1891. After having been employed for some time on a farm in Vega township, Marshall county, Mr. Eriksson began clerking in a hardware store and in the meantime attended school. Subsequently he was graduated from the normal school at Moorhead and then obtained a government position as clerk in the census bureau at Washington, D. C., being detailed to take statistics of factories, a position that lasted four and one-half years. During a part of that period, while a resident of Washington, Mr. Eriksson was a student in Georgetown University, and was graduated from the law department of that university with the class of 1904, most of his legal studies having been pursued at night. On August 22, 1905, Mr. Eriksson took up the practice of law in Fergus Falls, this county, in partnership with two other lawyers, the firm name being Eriksson, Rice & Schweitzer, which arrangement continued until 1907, in which year Leonard Eriksson purchased the interests of his partners. He has since continued in business alone and has built up a large and lucrative practice in Fergus Falls and Otter Tail county. He is a good lawyer and enjoys today not only a large practice, but one that is rapidly growing, his clientele comprising all classes of people.

By his marriage to Kate Shonts, daughter of James G. and Emma C. (Clement) Shonts, Mr. Eriksson has two children, Sidney M. and James S.

Mr. Eriksson is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows



LEONARD ERIKSSON.

and is secretary of the local lodge and past grand master of the lodge in this district. He is also foreman of the Brotherhood of American Yeomen and a member of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, as well as a member of the influential Chippewa Club. In politics he has been active in municipal affairs and is now a member of the Fergus Falls city council. In 1912 he was a delegate to the national convention of the Brotherhood of American Yeomen. Mr. Eriksson is a member of the Swedish Evangelical Lutheran church of Fergus Falls and Mrs. Eriksson is a member of the federated church of Fergus Falls. They are regular attendants at church services and liberally support all of the church enterprises.

JOHN OLSON.

Since the subject of this brief biographical record has become a representative among the farmers in this community, it may be assumed that he early made a plan for his life, and with undeviating determination carried out this plan from day to day, until the present time. He spent a long and arduous apprenticeship under the guidance and example of his father, who was also a farmer. Coming from Sweden, where he was born on May 23, 1864, John Olson has become a full-fledged American citizen.

Mr. Olson's parents, Ole Anderson and Margaret Nelson, were born in Sweden, where the latter died, but the former came to America the year following his son's arrival here. He lived with his son, Bengt Olson, until his death at Minneapolis. In the old country he was a farmer. The children born to him and his wife were Margaret, Elna, Andrew, Bengt and John.

John, who is the subject of this sketch, arrived in America from Sweden in 1887 and located in Minneapolis, where he worked in a flour-mill for seventeen years, being conversant with this trade from his experience as a miller in Sweden from the time he was fifteen years old. Leaving his mill work in Minneapolis, in 1903, he purchased a farm of one hundred and twenty acres in Eastern township, this land consisting of uncultivated fields, barren of any profitable vegetation, and without buildings of any kind. He immediately set to work to clear this land and to erect necessary buildings, and since that time has become well known as a general farmer.

Mr. Olson was united in marriage to Matilda Nelson in February, 1894. Mrs. Olson, who was born in Sweden in 1872, is a daughter of Christian and Elna Nelson, the latter being a daughter of Nels Pehrson. Both of Mrs. Olson's parents were born in Sweden, where the father died. The mother of Mrs. Olson came to America in 1888 and made their first home at Litchfield, Minnesota, later living in Minneapolis. Mrs. Olson's father was a miller by trade.

An interesting family of six children was born to Mr. and Mrs. Olson, these being Oscar A., Mabel Elizabeth, Ethel G., Florence Hilda, Mildred Joseph and George William. All of them have been brought up in the faith of the Swedish Lutheran church, of which the parents are members.

Because of his success in the material world and his worthy character as a man, the record of John Olson has a place among those of the prominent men of this locality. He is noted for his unflinching loyalty to duty, his rugged honesty and his steadfastness of purpose.

DWITE ROYAL GREEN.

Born in Erie county, New York, March 6, 1857, Dwite R. Green, a prosperous farmer of Girard township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, is the son of Rev. Eli W. and Caroline (Colby) Green.

Mr. Green's father was born in Broome county, New York, April 7, 1835, and his mother in Sardinia, Erie county, New York, January 14, 1838. In 1863 they emigrated to Wisconsin, and, after a number of years, returned to Evans, New York, where Mr. Green's father died in 1900. His mother is now living at St. Paul. They were the parents of six children, of whom Cora, Carrie and Clyde are deceased. The living children are Dwite R., Ralph H. and Itie.

Dwite R. Green was educated in the public schools of Wisconsin. When he was eighteen years old he moved to Fillmore county, Minnesota, and, three years later, was married in Limesprings, Howard county, Iowa, to Frances E. Conklin, who was born in Fillmore county, Minnesota, August 31, 1860, and who is the daughter of Lewis and Lena (Hayes) Conklin. Mrs. Green's father was born in Broome county, New York, about 1820, and her mother in Binghamton, New York, in 1823. They emigrated to Wisconsin in pioneer times and later to Fillmore county, in 1857. Mrs. Green's mother died about 1878 on the old homestead in Fillmore county, and in 1900 her father died in Iowa. They were the parents of nine children, Elizabeth, George, Kate, Emily, Robert, Thomas, Frances, Charles and Minerva.

Dwite R. Green engaged in farming in Fillmore county, Minnesota, but in 1880 moved to Compton township, Otter Tail county, and soon thereafter to Oak Valley township, where he took a claim. After two and one-half years he moved to the village of Deer Creek and, two and one-half years later, in 1885, moved to Girard township and rented a farm. He also bought one hundred and fifty-five acres, which he sold and later purchased eighty acres in section 23, where he lives. Before he purchased the last eighty acres he had purchased another forty acres. Mr. Green has cleared and cultivated his land and erected all of the buildings which stand upon it.

Mr. and Mrs. Dwite R. Green are the parents of twelve children, all of whom are living, Mary, Ella, Merle, Cora, Beryl, Frank, Jesse, Muriel, Allie, Thelma, Fay and Dwite, Jr.

Mr. Green is a member of the Farmers Shipping Association of Henning, Minnesota. Fraternally, he is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America. He is now clerk of the school board and has been a member of the board for sixteen years. He has also served as supervisor of the township. He is now a justice of the peace. Mr. Green's father was a well-known pioneer Baptist minister.

JULIUS JENSEN.

A review of the life of the subject of this sketch must of necessity be curtailed, as specific mention is made within the pages of this volume of a number of the worthy residents of Otter Tail county, among whom Mr. Jensen has figured in the growth and development of Pelican township, aiding with his industry, wealth and public interest.

Julius Jensen, farmer, Pelican Rapids, Otter Tail county, was born on August 26, 1865, in Norway, and is a son of Jens and Beata Nelson. When about two years of age he came to America with his parents, who settled in Fillmore county, Minnesota. His education was obtained at the public schools of Pelican township, and as a young man he began farming for himself on the place which he now owns, and which he bought in 1895, consisting of one hundred and sixty acres. Mr. Jensen divides his time and attention between general farming and stock raising. He is a member of the Norwegian Lutheran church, in which he has held the office of trustee for many years.

Jens and Beata Nelson were both born in Norway, where Mr. Nelson learned and followed the carpenter's trade, coming to America about 1867, and settling, first, for about two and one-half years, in Fillmore county, Minnesota. In 1870 he came to Pelican township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, where he took up a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres, and where he spent the remainder of his life, his death occurring in 1878. To Jens and Beata Nelson were born nine children: Nels, Agnette, Bernt (deceased), Dedrich, Julius, Ludwig, Anton, Julia (deceased in infancy), and Gina. Mr. Nelson was an earnest member of the Norwegian Lutheran church, of which he was one of the founders.

Dedrich Jensen, brother of the subject of this sketch, was born in 1862, and received his education in the public schools of Pelican township. As a young man he clerked in a store at Pelican Rapids. About 1895 he opened a hardware store at Pelican Rapids, in partnership with J. E. Johnson, which business he discontinued at the end of five years and became a

salesman until about 1915, when he took charge of the Farmers Co-operative Store at Norwegian Grove, which he managed for two years. He then went to North Dakota for four years, and is now living at Pelican Rapids. He was united in marriage with Mathia Afseth, by whom he has had seven children: Julia, Arthur, Nora, Betsey, Oliver, Morris and Grace. Mr. Jensen is a member of the Norwegian Lutheran church, of which he has been trustee for three terms. He has also served as a member of the town council for a number of years.

Julius Jensen was united in marriage in 1898 with Nicoline Bentrud, by whom he has had six children: Nora, Borghild, who died in 1915; Bennie, Alida, Arnold and Elma.

Mr. Jensen is genial and unassuming in manner, and has made many warm friends throughout Pelican township, where he is well known and highly esteemed by all who know him.

EDWARD KLIMP.

Born in Sweden, May 17, 1876, Edward Klimp, a prosperous farmer of Henning township, is the son of Aaron and Matilda Klimp. Mr. Klimp's parents were both natives of Sweden, the former born in 1857 and the latter in 1849. They were the parents of six children, as follow: Anna, who died at the age of six; Edward, John, Ogvald, Hulda and Daniel, the last named being deceased. In 1885 Mr. and Mrs. Aaron Klimp came to America and settled in Leaf Mountain township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, where they purchased one hundred and twenty acres of land. John Klimp added to this farm until they had one hundred and forty acres. They are now living retired on the old home farm, but the farm is owned by their son, John, who also owns one hundred and twenty acres adjoining the old farm. Mr. Klimp's parents are members of the Norwegian Lutheran church.

Edward Klimp attended the state school in Sweden and the public schools of Otter Tail county, Minnesota. He has always been engaged in farming. In 1897 Mr. Klimp went to North Dakota and homesteaded a tract of land in Cavalier county. After living in North Dakota for six and one-half years, he sold out and came back to Henning township, purchasing one hundred and sixty acres of land in section 33, of Henning township. Most of the improvements to be found upon this farm have been placed here by Mr. Klimp. He is a general farmer, but makes a specialty of raising stock.

In November, 1901, Edward Klimp was married to Anna Tellofson, a native of Pope county, Minnesota. Mrs. Klimp's parents were early settlers in Pope county. The mother is now deceased, but the father is living in

Vining, Minnesota. He owns a farm in Folden township. Mr. and Mrs. Edward Klimp have six children, Tillie, Arthur, Amy, Edna, Roy and Edwin.

Mr. and Mrs. Edward Klimp and all of the members of their family belong to the Norwegian Lutheran church at Vining. While a resident of North Dakota, Mr. Klimp served as a member of the school board. He is a prosperous farmer and a well-known citizen, and is highly popular in the community where he lives.

JOHN ESSER, M. D.

One of the active physicians who has lent honor to the medical profession in Minnesota is Dr. John Esser, whose technical knowledge and skill are such as to give him a place of confidence in the community where his greatest practice is carried on. He who is the subject of this sketch was born on the 10th of June, 1883, in St. Cloud, Wisconsin. His father, Theodore Esser, who was a native of Madison, Wisconsin, came to Minnesota in 1872, and located at Austin, where he was employed as an engineer on the railroad. The wife of Theodore Esser, who was Mary Stephany, of St. Cloud, Wisconsin, became the mother of the following children: John, who is the subject of this sketch; Benjamin; Margaret, who is deceased; Joseph and Malinda.

The early educational discipline of John Esser was secured in the public schools of Austin, and after completing a high school course he availed himself of the opportunities offered in the State University of Minnesota, where two years were spent in the course of liberal arts and four years in the medical school. Doctor Esser began his service as interne in the Bethesda Hospital, of St. Paul, where he remained on duty for a year. In 1909 he moved to Perham, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, where he has built up an extensive practice in his chosen field of endeavor. Aside from the insistent demands of his profession, Doctor Esser has found time to mingle among those citizens who have the welfare of the community development at heart and has taken an active interest in political and educational affairs.

On the 4th of October, 1909, occurred the marriage of John Esser to Lucy Wallace, a native of New Richmond, Wisconsin.

Doctor Esser votes an independent ticket. He holds membership in the American Medical Association, the Minnesota Medical Society and the Otter Tail County Medical Society, and in these organizations receives distinctive attention. He is also prominently affiliated with local fraternities, being a Knights of Columbus, a member of the Workmen's lodge and the Fraternal Order of Eagles.

ANDREW JOHNSEN.

As a result of domestic circumstances to be compelled, with little education or training, to seek employment as a means of support and to aid in the betterment of home conditions, and from this humble position to rise to a place of recognized success in the agricultural and business world, as well as to attain a place of prominence and influence in the public and official life of the township and community, is the record of Andrew Johnsen, well known and honored citizen of Eastern township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota. From days of hardship to those of comfort as a farmer and landowner, with limited schooling to become a man of knowledge and judgment in the conduct of public affairs, and as a result of his own efforts and resourceful ways to reach a place in the life of the community which has given him a place of honor and esteem, he is worthy of a notable position among the men of achievement and accomplishment in Otter Tail county, Minnesota.

Andrew Johnsen was born in Smaland, Sweden, on March 1, 1859, the son of Peter and Sarah (Person) Johnsen, both of whom were born in Smaland, Sweden, during the year 1836. Peter Johnsen was a farmer in his native land, where he lived until the year 1868, at that time coming, with his family, to America and stopping at the city of Chicago, Illinois, where, as a result of insufficient means, the elder Johnsen found it necessary to leave his family while he journeyed to Washington county, Minnesota, at which place he secured funds with which to bring his wife and children to Washington county, Minnesota, a place where this hardy pioneer lived until the year 1871, when he moved to Otter Tail county, Minnesota, living for the first summer in a granary, after which Peter Johnsen homesteaded a farm which he improved from time to time, at the same time engaging in general agricultural pursuits, a line of endeavor in which he has prospered to the point of comfort and independence. Peter and Sarah Johnsen are the parents of the following children: Andrew, the subject of this sketch; Gust; Swan J.; Ida C., who is deceased; Emma E., who is deceased; Sophia, who lives at Webster, South Dakota; William A., who lives at Minneapolis, Minnesota, and Frank E., who lives at Fargo, North Dakota. Peter Johnsen and his family are well known and prominent members of the Swedish Lutheran church, the elder Johnsen being known especially for his great interest and efforts in the church of his choice.

Andrew Johnsen was able to secure but little education, at the age of twelve years leaving his classes and working in a pinery until he was about sixteen years of age, after which he became a helper with a party of surveyors who were planning the state road between the towns of Wadena and

Long Prairie, Minnesota. Mr. Johnsen relates that while with this party at one time the food supply became exhausted and it was necessary to make a journey of thirty-six miles on foot before more food could be obtained. The early days of Andrew Johnsen from the days when he with his brothers were trappers seeking to aid in the support of the family, until at the time when he became twenty-one years of age and homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of land in Eastern township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, where he has since become an extensive and well-to-do farmer, are full of interest and are illustrative of the spirit and manner of this estimable citizen. Since acquiring the land of his homestead, Andrew Johnsen has added twenty adjoining acres to his farm, has cleared many acres of uncleared land and has improved and equipped his farm until it is among the most desirable of the county for the general agricultural life which Mr. Johnsen follows.

During the year 1885 Andrew Johnsen was married to Jennie Nuttson, who, in the year 1890, died, being the mother of three children: Rudolph, Amelia and Elsie. Mr. Johnsen married, secondly, Anna Sjodin, to whom were born the following children: Merton and Myrtle, twins; Anna and Vivian. Andrew Johnsen is a member of the Swedish Lutheran church, a congregation which he has served as trustee. In politics, Mr. Johnsen is a Democrat. Andrew Johnsen has been county commissioner since 1910 and at one time served a term of five years as township assessor; he also served on the township board from 1890 to 1910, and as treasurer of the school board for six years.

For nearly thirty years Mr. Johnsen has been the agent for the Farmers Mutual Insurance Company and he is now president of the Parkers Prairie Co-operative Creamery Company.

JAMES H. SHEA.

To attain a position of trust in the financial world requires mental faculties of a superior order and great strength of character. These elements of high citizenship have been combined in such a way in the character of James H. Shea as to make him a constant recipient of public confidence. He whose name initiates this sketch was born in Otter Tail county, in Rush Lake township, on the 21st of May, 1870. He is the son of Martin Shea, whose life history is presented elsewhere in this volume.

James H. Shea began his educational training in the common schools of Perham and completed his education in St. John's University at Collegeville, Minnesota. Upon leaving school he became assistant postmaster at Perham from 1893 until 1897. The following year he became interested in the hardware business and was employed by A. Marekel, for whose hardware firm he worked until 1902. He gained a wide experience in this line

of work from January, 1902, until February, 1904, when he traveled for the Marshall-Wells Hardware Company, through North Dakota. In 1904 Mr. Shea entered in the employment of the bank at Perham and is now acting as cashier of the State Bank of Perham, where his ability has received marked recognition.

On the 12th of April, 1910, the marriage of James H. Shea and Anna L. Flynn was solemnized. Anna (Flynn) Shea is the daughter of Daniel and Mary (Macmara) Flynn, who are well known in Meeker county. Mr. and Mrs. Shea are members of the St. Henry's Catholic church, where they attend regularly.

Mr. Shea is affiliated with the Knights of Columbus, and lives up to the highest ideals of the organization. In the social and business life of the community in which he lives, Mr. Shea is looked upon as a man of engaging personality, and he has a spirit of good fellowship which has won for him many friends. Mr. Shea is a member of the Democratic party, and is treasurer of the city of Perham.

HANS N. ARVIDSON.

Hans N. Arvidson, a prominent farmer of Parkers Prairie, should be included among the men who represent that industry in this part of the county. Born in Sweden on May 22, 1872, he is the son of Nels Olsen and Margaret Jensen, both of whom were born in Sweden and came to America in 1892, bringing with them all of their children excepting Christe, who is deceased. Nels Olsen, who was a forester in Sweden, settled with his family in Eastern township, near the present home of the subject of this sketch. He and his wife, both of whom are dead, were the parents of thirteen children, namely: Bengta, Ingar, Ole, James (deceased), Botilda, Nils, Ellen, Andrew, Hans, Charles, Mary, Christe (deceased) and another child, who died in infancy. Of the living children only three are residents of localities other than Eastern township.

Hans Arvidson was a school boy in Sweden up to his fifteenth year, when he came with one brother and three sisters to live in this township. Accustomed to hard work, he soon found employment as a farm laborer, and in 1898 purchased the farm of one hundred and sixty acres on which he now lives. On this he has placed modern improvements and has become successful as a raiser of Shorthorn cattle. In 1902 he added to his property by the purchase of eighty acres in section 29, also in Eastern township. After his arrival in this country he lived continuously in Otter Tail county with the exception of two seasons in North Dakota, during his nineteenth and twentieth years.

The ceremony which made Hans N. Arvidson and Sophia Anderson

man and wife took place on September 18, 1898. Mrs. Arvidson, who is a native of Sweden, is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Tuve Anderson, who lived thirty years in America and from whom Mr. Arvidson purchased the land which he added to his farm. Mr. Anderson later returned to Sweden, where he now lives.

A large and interesting family grew up about Mr. and Mrs. Arvidson, and the mother took pains to instruct them in the tenets of the Swedish Lutheran denomination, to which she and her husband belong. The children born in this home are Clifford, Ruben, Gertrude, Henry, Rhinhart, Signa, Alvin and Edna.

Mr. Arvidson is at present chairman of the supervisors of this township and has held this office for ten years. He is also a stockholder in the Joy Creamery Company. A man who can hold a public office acceptably to himself and to the community for ten years is a man worthy of respect and commendation. No public duty has ever been neglected by Mr. Arvidson, who has also led an exemplary life, as is attested by the respect in which he is held.

WILLIAM F. SMITH.

One of the largest landowners of Inman township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, is William F. Smith, who owns five hundred and twenty acres in Inman township, besides one hundred and twenty acres in Oak Valley township. Mr. Smith has been a resident of Otter Tail county, Minnesota, since 1902, a period of fourteen years, and his present large holdings of farm real estate are a splendid testimony, not only of his industry, but of his knowledge of farming and his careful business management.

William F. Smith was born in Rock county, Wisconsin, July 22, 1862. His parents were William and Laura C. (Bulles) Smith, the former of whom was born in 1818, and the latter in 1822, in Massachusetts. They came to Wisconsin about 1845, and in 1873 moved to Buchanan, Iowa, where Mr. Smith's father engaged in farming and where he died in 1901. His wife had died seven years prior to her husband's death, in 1894.

William F. Smith was reared in the village of Avon, Rock county, Wisconsin, until he was eleven years old, when the family moved to Iowa, where he lived on a farm until he was twenty-eight years old. At this time the family moved to Hazelton, Iowa, and Mr. Smith was engaged in the well business until 1902, when he moved to Otter Tail county, Minnesota. Here he purchased three hundred and twenty acres of land in sections 10 and 3, of Inman township. He has since added three hundred and twenty acres, and now owns altogether six hundred and forty acres, all of which, except one hundred and twenty acres, is situated in Inman township. The

other is situated in Oak Valley township. Mr. Smith is a general farmer and stockman and one of the most extensive farmers of this township.

In 1903 William F. Smith was married to Vinnie E. Tuffs, who was born near Mason City, Iowa, and to them have been born six children, Vera, William Glenn, Vernon Clifford, Lester Lowell, Inez and Theodore Marsdon.

It can hardly be expected that a man who has been so busily engaged as William F. Smith in farming, has had very much time for other things. Nevertheless, he has taken an interest in educational affairs and is at present a member of the local school board. His prominence in this community rests more on his success as a farmer than on anything else. He has a host of friends in Inman and Oak Valley townships, where he has come to be well known.

GOTTLIEB MENGE.

Gottlieb Menge, prominent farmer and stock raiser of Oak Valley township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, was born in Winona county, Minnesota, on April 3, 1877, the son of Fred and Fredericka (Lentz) Menge, natives of Germany. Fred Menge came to America when eighteen years of age and following his marriage in the state of Wisconsin, where he first located, he settled in Winona county, Minnesota, on eighty acres of land which he purchased in that county. In the year 1902, the elder Menge moved to Otter Tail county, where he bought two hundred and forty acres of land in section 8, Oak Valley township, and lived there until his death, in 1906. Fred and Fredericka Menge were the parents of the following children: Herman, John, Gottlieb, Amelia, Gusta, Minnie and Louise.

Gottlieb Menge was educated in the schools of his native county, after which he went to the state of North Dakota and homesteaded a farm of one hundred and sixty acres of land, where he lived for three years and then returned to Oak Valley township. In 1903 Gottlieb Menge bought one hundred and sixty acres of land in Inman and Oak Valley townships, where he lived for some time and then sold his land and bought the one-hundred-and-sixty-acre farm of his father, a place which he greatly improved and to which he added eighty acres of land, making the farm, where he now engages in farming and stock raising, one of the best farms of the community.

In business and political circles Gottlieb Menge has taken an important part. Mr. Menge is a stockholder of the Oak Valley Co-operative Creamery Company, and in official life has served his community as treasurer of Oak Valley township and for six years served as clerk of the school board. He

has also served as secretary of the Oak Valley Creamery Association since the same started.

On November 24, 1904, Gottlieb Menge was married to Anna Wacholz, who was born in Germany, the daughter of John and Caroline (Wahrmaster) Wacholz. To the marriage of Gottlieb and Anna Menge have been born four children, Florence, Elsie (deceased), Arnold and Erwin.

John Wacholz was born in Germany, November 8, 1846, and his wife, Caroline, was born in Germany, December 11, 1846. Following their marriage, in 1872, John and Caroline came to America and settled in Winona county, where they lived until 1905 and then moved to Otter Tail county. On coming to Oak Valley township, where Mr. Wacholz had secured a farm of eighty acres, at an earlier date, the family established a home on their farm and after many improvements had one of the best farms of the locality, where John Wacholz has since lived, his wife, Caroline, dying on July 7, 1915. John and Caroline Wacholz are the parents of six children.

ALBERT R. KNUTSON.

Among the well-known farmers and prominent stock raisers of Erhards Grove township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, is Albert R. Knutson, who was born on the old Knutson homestead in Erhards Grove township, on June 25, 1884, the son of August and Amanda (Anderson) Knutson, natives of Sweden, the former born on September 28, 1854, and the latter born on July 2, 1861.

August Knutson was the son of Knut and Botilda Nelson, who were born in Sweden, where they lived until coming to America and settling, as pioneers, in Erhards Grove township, where Knut Nelson homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of land, which he cultivated for some time, selling the land later to his son-in-law, B. A. Bengtson, but continued living on the farm until his death, on October 6, 1895. Botilda, the widow of Knut Nelson, died on October 5, 1900. Amanda Knutson was the daughter of Samuel and Lizzie (Swanson) Anderson, the former of whom lived and died in Sweden. His wife, Lizzie, after Mr. Anderson's death, emigrated, with the rest of her family, to the United States in the spring of 1876, coming to Otter Tail. She married Carl Fogelberg there and died in the year 1879. August Knutson came to Otter Tail county from Sweden in the fall of 1875 and homesteaded eighty acres of land in section 14, Erhards Grove township, where he lived as a farmer, adding to his land until he was the owner of one hundred and twenty acres of land at the time of his death, in 1887. August and Amanda Knutson were the parents of three children, Jennie, Alma and Albert, all of whom are living. Amanda Knut-

son, after the death of her husband, August Knutson, was married to Noah Johnson, a native of Sweden, who came to America and now cultivates eighty acres of land in sections 10 and 15, of Erhards Grove township.

Albert R. Knutson received his education in the common schools and in the high school of Pelican Rapids, Minnesota, after which he became a student at the University of Minnesota, graduating from the school of agriculture in 1912. Mr. Knutson was then appointed assistant agricultural agent for the Great Northern agricultural extension division, an office which he occupied for one year. Later, Mr. Knutson went to Polk county, Minnesota, where he served as county agricultural agent for six months, after which he returned to the home farm, and, in partnership with his step-father, he established a firm known as Johnson & Knutson, stock breeders and dealers. As a stock dealer and raiser Mr. Knutson has been thoroughly successful, the firm of which he is a member being the owners of some of the finest cattle to be found in the state, the herd consisting of purebred Holsteins, as well as many high-grade animals of the same breed. Johnson & Knutson are also breeders of Duroc-Jersey hogs, they making a specialty of this stock, together with Holstein cattle.

ANDREW T. VIGEN.

Andrew T. Vigen, farmer, prominent citizen, man of affairs and legislator, of Pelican Rapids, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, was born in Norway on March 2, 1854, the son of Thrond E. and Lizzie A. (Stadum), natives of Norway. Thrond E. Vigen came to America in 1870, and located in Fillmore county, where he lived for two years and then moved to Otter Tail county, where he homesteaded one hundred and twenty acres of land in section 18, Erhards Grove township, a place which he cultivated until his death, on June 7, 1897. Lizzie A., the widow of Thrond E. Vigen, now lives with Mrs. Strinden, in Pelican Rapids, at the age of ninety years. Thrond E. and Lizzie A. Vigen were the parents of the following children: Maren, who married Isaac Strinden, of Pelican Rapids; Andrew T., the subject of this sketch, and Ingelbret T., a hardware and machinery dealer, Lake Park.

Andrew T. Vigen was educated in the public schools of his native country and in the common schools of Fillmore county, Minnesota, after which he came to Otter Tail county with his parents and homesteaded eighty acres in section 18, Erhards Grove township, a place to which he later added one hundred and sixty acres, in Trondhjem township, and then bought forty acres in Erhards Grove township and ten acres of timber land in the same region. On this land Andrew T. Vigen placed extensive improvements and has since engaged in general farming and stock raising.

On October 20, 1877, Andrew T. Vigen was married to Jorgina P. Mitbo, who was born in Norway, November 29, 1857, the daughter of Peter and Christina Mitbo, natives of Norway, who came to America and located in Fayette county, Iowa, where they lived for four years and then, in 1870, came to Otter Tail county, Minnesota, where Peter Mitbo homesteaded a farm of two hundred acres, on which he lived until his death, in 1904. To the marriage of Andrew T. and Jorgina P. Vigen have been born the following children: Theodore, Anton, Lizzie Christena, Hilda, Edward, Anna, Syvirin, Ottelia, Severine, James, Elmer and Wilhelm George. Mr. Vigen and his family are active members of the Norwegian Lutheran church.

Andrew T. Vigen is one of the best-known and honored citizens of Otter Tail county, he having taken a conspicuous part in the public life and official circles of township, county and state. Mr. Vigen has served his township as supervisor, as clerk of the township, as clerk of the school board and for many years as a member of the school board. In 1888 Andrew T. Vigen was appointed to fill a vacancy as county commissioner, he later, in 1907, being elected to the office, which he occupied for eight years. In 1894 Andrew T. Vigen was elected to a seat in the state Legislature, taking office in 1895 and serving two terms, being re-elected to that office in 1897. Mr. Vigen is a staunch Progressive.

As a business man, Andrew T. Vigen is prominently affiliated, he being a stockholder of the Farmers Elevator Company, a company which he was instrumental in organizing.

OLAF ISAKSON.

Born in Sweden, March 8, 1876, Olaf Isakson, a successful farmer of Inman township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, is a son of Isaac and Betsey (Johnson) Isakson.

Mr. Isakson's parents were both natives of Sweden, who emigrated to America, settling at Henning, Otter Tail county, in 1892. Mr. Isakson's father died at Henning, in 1896, at the age of fifty-six years, and his mother died in 1911, at the age of seventy-eight. They were the parents of six children, as follow: John, Christine, who lives in Sweden; Berg, Nels (deceased), Andrew and Olaf.

Olaf Isakson received his education in the public schools of his native land, and in 1893 came to America, settling at Henning, Otter Tail county, Minnesota. Five years later he purchased eighty acres of land in section 12, of Inman township, and since that time has cleared the farm, drained the land and erected substantial and comfortable buildings on the place, all of which are kept in a very fine state of repair. Mr. Isakson is a general

farmer and stockman, and has met with a very commendable degree of success in his chosen calling.

In 1901 Olaf Isakson was married to Anna Silverberg, who was born on November 11, 1880, in Sweden, and who is a daughter of Nels and Anne Silverberg. Mrs. Isakson's father died in 1885, at the age of forty-three, and his widow is now living in Sweden, at the age of seventy-three years. Olaf Isakson and wife are the parents of four children: Lillie, aged twelve; Ned, deceased; Lloyd, six years old, and Irwin, aged four.

Mr. Isakson is a member of the Deer Creek Shipping Association. He has served as overseer of the roads of Inman township for several years, and still holds this position. He and his wife are members of the Swedish Lutheran church, in which they are deeply interested, and to the support of which they are liberal contributors. In the community where he lives Mr. Isakson is rated as one of the substantial and successful farmers of the township, and is a most desirable and popular citizen.

HANS CHRISTIAN CHRISTENSEN.

Otter Tail county has been favored with many desirable men from Scandinavian countries, men who, in the land of their adoption have taken an important part in its public life and who in private lines of endeavor have demonstrated their efficiency and their value as citizens of this country. Of this class and of this people is Hans Christian Christensen, who as a good man and as a true citizen has won a place of prominence among the masses of this county.

Hans Christian Christensen was born in Cleveland, Ohio, on October 27, 1871, the son of Lars and Karen (Hansen) Christiansen, both of whom were natives of Denmark. Lars Christensen was born on Long Island, of the province of Fyn, an island only four miles in circumference, which was used as a game preserve for the royal family of Denmark and on which island Lars Christensen was employed as a fisherman for the Danish royalty, together with the privilege of farming on a few acres (Cönder) of the place, as compensation for his services, a position which was held by his father, Christian Christensen, during his entire life, and who received his position from an aunt, who had preceded him in the work. After some years living on Long Island, Lars Christensen, with two brothers, said good-by to seven married sisters who remained in Denmark, and came to America with the intention of joining a cousin at Cleveland, Ohio, an expectation which was not realized, as on reaching the city of Cleveland they found that the cousin had died. The three brothers then went to Ft. Wayne, Indiana, where one brother followed his trade as a mason and where the other brother engaged

in the trade of a cigar-maker, while Lars Christensen learned the trade of a carpenter, after which they returned to Cleveland, Ohio, and lived for a time, when Jergen, the younger brother, went to Otter Tail county, Minnesota, and took up a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres in Tordenskjold township, where he lived for the remainder of his life. Thos, the other brother, lived at the city of Cleveland until his death.

Lars Christensen, at this time, was married to Karen Hansen, who was born at Moen, Denmark, and while a young woman came to America on a sailboat, which as a result of cholera discovered on board, was held at quarantine in the port of New York for seven weeks (after several weeks in crossing the ocean), during which time the passengers were not permitted to land. On her release Karen Hansen went to Cleveland, Ohio, where, after three years, she was married and then three years later Lars and Karen Christensen went to Otter Tail county, Minnesota, and bought one hundred and sixty acres of land in sections 17 and 20, of Tordenskjold township, land which was unimproved, and as a carpenter Lars Christensen built a small house and a log barn, structures which, greatly enlarged and improved, are standing today. On October 27, 1881, Lars Christensen died, a victim of tuberculosis, and later his widow married Jergen Christensen, the younger brother of her deceased husband. Karen Christensen lived on the Christensen farm until May 14, 1911, when she died, she having survived her husband, who was killed in a runaway, for twenty-one years. Lars Christensen was the father of seven children: Johanna, who married Jens Nelson, and who lives in Tordenskjold township; Hans Christian, the subject of this sketch; Jens Peter, who died when sixteen years of age; Carl E., who is a real-estate dealer of Underwood, Minnesota, and three children who died in infancy.

Hans Christian Christensen received his education in the public schools of his boyhood home, but as a result of the poor health of his father he had to stay at home most of the time to assist his father, as a result of which Hans C. Christensen is largely a self-educated man. As a young man Hans Christian Christensen learned the carpenter's trade but later engaged as a farmer and now cultivates about one-half of the original homestead in Tordenskjold township.

During the year 1903 Hans Christian Christensen was married to Christina Robertson, who was born in Denmark, the daughter of Didloff and Margaret (Larsen) Robertson, who were natives of Denmark, and many years ago came to America and settled in Clitherall township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota. To Hans Christian and Christina Christensen were born the following children: Lorris, who died at the age of three months; Delora,

Huldah, Lawrence, Marvin, who died when seventeen days old; Margaret and Joyce.

For the past twenty years Mr. Christensen, in addition to his farming pursuits has been engaged in the business of conducting a threshing machine and in more recent years has been running a portable saw-mill, which he has operated in many localities, until Hans C. Christensen is one of the best-known men of agricultural activities in the county.

Hans Christian Christensen has not only been a busy and a successful farmer but he has found time to serve his township in the office of town clerk for seven years, and in the office of clerk of the school district for fourteen years. Mr. Christensen in politics is a Socialist. In church affiliation, Hans Christian Christensen is active in the work of the Lutheran church.

WILLIAM J. LEACH.

William J. Leach, the well-known superintendent of the Fergus Falls waterworks, is a native of Westport, province of Ontario, Canada, where he was born in 1856.

Mr. Leach is the son of Isaac J. and Minerva (Robertson) Leach, the former of whom was born near Edinburgh, Scotland, where he was a painter by trade. He emigrated to Canada when he was about twenty-one years old and there opened a shop where his business developed amazingly. He did contract work for a number of years, or until 1861, when the family moved to Rockford, Illinois, where they lived for some years. Afterward they moved to Excelsior, Hennepin county, this state, where the father still continued to work at his trade and where he spent the remainder of his life.

William J. Leach obtained his early education at Rockford, Illinois. He left home when he was twenty years old and moved to Minneapolis, where he worked at the Minneapolis reaper works for a time and was later employed at the Lillybridge cracker shops. On Easter Sunday, 1882, Mr. Leach arrived at Fergus Falls, this county, and his wife followed him two weeks later. For a few months, Mr. Leach turned his hand to anything that he could find to do. In 1883 he was employed with the pipe crew, laying waterpipes for the city, and since that time has been continuously employed in the city waterworks department, with the exception of five years which were spent at Wahpeton, North Dakota, where he was employed in the construction of a waterworks plant. In 1889 he returned to Fergus Falls and was employed by C. D. Wright, who had charge of the waterworks at that time. When the waterworks were turned over to the city, Mr. Leach continued in the employ of the corporation and is now the efficient superintendent of the plant.



WILLIAM J. LEACH.

Before going to Fergus Falls, Mr. Leach was married to Ida Raymond, who was born in Moline, Illinois, the daughter of Thomas and Hannah (Longdon) Raymond. The former was born in Rindge, New Hampshire, and is now living with Mr. and Mrs. Leach, being in his eighty-sixth year. His wife died in November, 1912. Mr. and Mrs. Leach have two children, Irene, who married Arthur L. Brown, and Florence, who is the wife of Edwin Schow and has two children, Florence R. and Donald R.

In 1893 Mr. Leach became a member of Corner Stone Lodge No. 99, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons. He joined the Independent Order of Odd Fellows in 1887 and is likewise a member of the Modern Woodmen of America and of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks.

WILLIA H. HARRIS.

Born in Stephenson county, Illinois, February 8, 1861, Willia H. Harris, a successful farmer of Oak Valley township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, is the son of Christopher and Cynthia (Hodgson) Harris. His father was born in Pennsylvania on January 20, 1818, and his mother in Ohio, February 14, 1822. Christopher Harris emigrated from Luzern county, Pennsylvania, where he was born, to Ohio, when he was a young man. He settled in Delaware county in 1838 and, after his marriage in that county, moved to Franklin county, Illinois, in 1851, and then to St. Paul, Minnesota, in 1855, where he pre-empted a claim where the city of Rosemount is now located. Later he returned to Illinois, but came back to Minnesota and settled at Rosemount, where he lived for seven years. He then moved to Oak Valley township, Otter Tail county, in 1878, and took a homestead of eighty acres in section 24, of this township, which his son now owns. He improved this farm and lived upon it until his death, on August 11, 1892. His widow died on the old homestead farm on September 27, 1893. They had a family of eight children, as follow: Jane, born on November 26, 1841; Harriet, February 14, 1844; Monroe, November 15, 1845; Marcella, October 13, 1849; Caroline, October 10, 1851; Martha, October 10, 1854; Willia H., the subject of this sketch, and Josephine, June 13, 1862.

Willia H. Harris was reared on his father's farm and educated in the schools of Rosemont, Minnesota, and the public schools of Stephenson county, Illinois. He was seventeen years old when the family moved to Otter Tail county, Minnesota. He assisted his father on the old home farm and later purchased eighty acres in Todd county, Minnesota. In 1911 Mr. Harris purchased eighty acres adjoining his original farm, and in 1913 built a good barn and a splendid residence. In 1914 he built a large granary.

and in 1915 he built another large barn, thirty-four by seventy feet. The buildings are all painted and his farm is kept in a good state of repair.

On October 26, 1884, Willia H. Harris was married to Lillie Flora Marshall, who was born in Wright county, Iowa, January 21, 1868, and who is the daughter of Rasmus and Elizabeth (Caldwell) Marshall. Mrs. Harris' father was born in Denmark on September 26, 1833, and her mother on June 22, 1845. They were married in Iowa. Her mother died in Iowa, September 10, 1871. There were two children born to this marriage, Lillie Flora and Lydia Ann, born on February 4, 1870. Mrs. Harris's father moved to Todd county, Minnesota, in 1875 and took a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres. He has served three years in the Civil War and owned property in Wadena, where he lived for three years. He died, however, on the old homestead on September 11, 1911. By his second marriage, to Laura Nelson, there were born four children, Anna, Minnie, William and Frank.

Mr. and Mrs. Willia H. Harris have been the parents of nine children: Frank Monroe, born on October 12, 1885; Charles Eugene, July 29, 1887; Grace Luella, July 25, 1889; Roy Wilbur, March 12, 1892; Earl Clifford, November 25, 1894; Hazel Blanche, July 26, 1897, died in infancy; Harold William, October 5, 1899; Floyd Ralph, September 4, 1902; and Miriam Lee, April 24, 1906.

Mr. Harris has never aspired to office and has never been especially active in politics. He has devoted his life and his energy to farming and his ability to apply himself to his chosen vocation, no doubt, is responsible for a large measure of his success. Mr. and Mrs. Harris and family attend the United Brethren church.

ADOLPH SCHMITZ.

Proprietor of one hundred and sixty acres of land in Bluffton township, Otter Tail county, and a man prominent in the political circles of Bluffton township, having served three terms as supervisor, two years as clerk and at the present time as justice of the peace of that township—portrays in a very brief maner the life accomplishments of the person whose name forms the caption of this biographical sketch, as well as being an index of the esteem and respect which he has commanded for himself in his community.

Adolph Schmitz was born on September 27, 1856, in Dane county, Wisconsin, the son of Joseph and Annie (Buyschal) Schmitz, both natives of the province of Prussia, Germany, the former born on December 24, 1808, and the latter on April 28, 1828. Each came to America unmarried

and settled in Jefferson county, Wisconsin, where it chanced they became acquainted and, the acquaintanceship developing in love, were married. Soon thereafter they removed to Dane county, Wisconsin, where, after purchasing one hundred and sixty acres of unimproved land, they set about to clear and improve the land and to engage in husbandry. For the remainder of their lives, Joseph and Annie (Buyschal) Schmitz lived on this farm and reared their children. He passed away in 1888, at a mature age, and she, surviving her husband many years, passed away on February 14, 1914, at the ripe old age of eighty-six years. To this devoted couple there were born twelve children, namely: Celia, the widow of Henry Ganser, who lives at Sauk City, Wisconsin; Nicholas, a laborer, who died in Wisconsin at the age of thirty-five years; Margaret, the wife of Anton Kirschner, who died on the home farm; Joseph, a farmer of Sparta, Wisconsin; Adolph, the subject of this sketch; Mary, the wife of a Mr. Foose, who lives in Madison, Wisconsin; Annie, the wife of Hubert Lombardy, who lives at Lodi, Wisconsin; Theresa, the wife of Charles Strangt, who lives at Charles City, Iowa; Barbara, who married a Mr. Kelly, and also lives at Charles City, Iowa; John, who lives on the homestead farm in Dane county; Mat, a carpenter, of Waunakee, Wisconsin, and Frank, a carpenter of Sauk City, Wisconsin. Both Joseph and Annie (Buyschal) Schmitz were devoted members of the Catholic church.

Reared on his father's farm and receiving a good education in German and English public schools, Adolph Schmitz, upon attaining his majority, learned the mason's trade, which trade he has followed intermittently up to the present time. In 1879 he came to Otter Tail county, Minnesota, and homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of unimproved and heavily timbered land. After erecting a log house upon the same site where the present farm dwellings are situated, he began to clear his land and to break the soil. Continuing the process of clearing, Mr. Schmitz now possesses seventy acres of cleared land besides the remainder of the one hundred and sixty acre tract which is in meadow and timber land. In 1900 the present farm home was erected. Being interested in live stock, Mr. Schmitz has made a specialty of breeding Shorthorn cattle and keeps from fifteen to twenty head of cattle on his farm.

On April 20, 1880, Adolph Schmitz was united in marriage to Mary Welsch, a native of Dane county, Wisconsin, and the daughter of John and Elizabeth (Mertans) Welsch, the former of whom died in 1890, as a result of severe injuries received from a bull, and the latter of whom is still living in Sauk county, Wisconsin, at the age of eighty-nine years. To Mr. and Mrs. Schmitz have been born twelve children, as follow: Annie, the wife of Bert Lamb, who lives in the state of Washington; Mary;

the wife of Christ Thompson, who lives in Staples, Minnesota; Theresa, the wife of Kinif James, who resides in Bluffton township; Mat, who lives at home with his parents; Lena, the wife of John Hanson, who resides at Nashwauk, Minnesota; Julia, the wife of Joseph Ertz, who resides in Bluffton township; Joe, a carpenter, living at home with his parents; Susanna, the wife of Watson Overstreet, who lives at Nashwauk, Minnesota; Lizzie, John, Katie and Henry, who live at home with their parents.

A successful farmer, devoted husband and parent who has reared his large family of children to lives of usefulness, Adolph Schmitz has done more than attend to his agricultural and family interests, having ever been solicitous of the social conditions of his community. As a Republican he has served Bluffton township creditably and well as supervisor for three terms, township clerk for two years and now is justice of the peace. He and his beloved wife have also been influential in religious affairs and have been devoted members of the Catholic church.

GEORGE W. STOKES.

Born in England, February 21, 1862, George W. Stokes, a successful farmer of Oak Valley township, is the son of George and Anna H. (Mudg) Stokes. Mr. Stokes's parents were both natives of England. His father was born in 1830 and his mother in 1828. They were married in England and in 1864 the father came to New York. He was followed by the family in 1867, and in 1880 they emigrated to Minnesota and, on February 21, 1880, settled at Wadena. Later on in the year they came to Oak Valley township, Otter Tail county, and homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres, one hundred and twenty acres of which was in section 6, of Woodside township and forty acres in section 32, of Oak Valley township. Here the father lived until his death. The mother died on May 31, 1912. They had a family of six children: Grace, who married Benjamin Costen, of Hewitt, Minnesota; Elizabeth, who married John Biggs, of Wadena; George W., who is the subject of this sketch; Jane, who is the wife of Barney Sanders, of Park Rapids, Minnesota; Katie, who was the wife of Mike Snodgrass, both now deceased, and Edward, who lives in Canada.

George W. Stokes was reared on a farm until he was nine years old and was educated in the public schools of New York state. He accompanied his parents to Wadena county and a little later to Oak Valley township, Otter Tail county. Mr. Stokes purchased forty acres of land where he now lives and which is situated in section 32. He later added eighty acres to his original farm and has erected substantial buildings on the farm. In 1915 he built a fine barn, thirty-two by fifty feet. Mr. Stokes is a general farmer

and stockman, and has been prominent in the agricultural life of Oak Valley township for many years. He is a stockholder in the Oak Valley Creamery Company and in the Farmers Co-operative Creamery Company of Hewitt.

In 1886 George W. Stokes was married to Eliza Irons, who was born in 1869, in England, and who was the daughter of William and Anna Irons. Mrs. Stokes's parents came from England to America in 1886 and located eventually in Oak Valley township, in section 32. They purchased forty acres of land and here they lived for a number of years. Mrs. Stokes's father is deceased, but her mother is still living. At the time of her death, in 1902, Mrs. Stokes left six children, Albert, Ernest, Joseph, Roy, Rose and Ralph. One child, Leo, had previously died. In 1903 Mr. Stokes was married, secondly, to May Hubbard, who was born in Otter Tail county, Minnesota, and who was the daughter of Frank and Anna Hubbard, now of Oak Valley township. By this second marriage there was born one son, Fred, who died in infancy, September 27, 1904. Mrs. May Stokes died in September, 1906.

George W. Stokes has served as a member of the school board, but is not now a member. He has never aspired to office. Nevertheless, Mr. Stokes enjoys the confidence and esteem of his neighbors and the respect and admiration of those who know him for his worth as a man and citizen.

JOHN C. JOHNSON.

A prosperous and well-known farmer of Bluffton township, the proprietor of a farm comprising three hundred and twenty acres of contiguous land equipped with a beautiful house and barn, director of both the telephone company and creamery at Wadena, chairman of the board of supervisors of Bluffton township for the last fifteen years and a man who has served as school director—stand as evidence of the energy and thrift, of the eminent success and of the high regard and esteem with which the people of Bluffton township and Otter Tail county regard the man whose name heads this biographical review.

John C. Johnson was born in Skane, Sweden, on January 28, 1850, the son of John and Annie (Nelson) Johnson, both of whom were born and reared in Skane, the former both on June 21, 1821, and the latter on October 12, 1824. The parents were married, lived and reared their children to manhood and womanhood in their native village, the father being a laborer by occupation. In 1883, however, Mr. and Mrs. Johnson left their native land and emigrated to the United States to the United States in order to spend their declining years with their son, John C., who two years previously left the parental roof and came to America. Annie (Nelson) Johnson died two years after her arrival in the United States, in 1885, at Rock-

ford, Illinois, where her remains were buried. John Nelson survived his wife many years, passing away in 1912, in Bluffton township, his remains being buried at Wadena, Minnesota. To Mr. and Mrs. John Johnson were born four children, as follow: Emma, who married Andrew Hanson, lives in Bluffton township; Betsey, the wife of Nils Nelson, lives in Sweden; John C. is the subject of this sketch, and Andrew died quite young in Sweden.

John C. Johnson was educated in the public schools of his native land and at an early age learned farming. In 1881 he emigrated to America and settled near Rockford, Illinois, where he at first worked on neighboring farms but later became a renter. He remained in Illinois during the next fourteen years, or until 1895, when he came to Otter Tail county, Minnesota, and bought one hundred and twenty acres of wild, unbroken land in section 21, of Bluffton township. Like many another farmer now living in this section of Minnesota, he began to clear his land of brush and timber, to break the soil, and to build a log cabin and barn to serve as the pioneer home. Later he added two hundred acres until he now owns a farm of three hundred and twenty acres, all lying in a contiguous body and highly improved. Mr. Johnson continued the process of improvement and in 1915 erected a magnificent barn and other buildings, the barn being one hundred and twenty feet long and thirty feet wide and equipped with every modern convenience, hay sling and fork and large enough to shelter sixty head of cattle, sixteen head of horses and one hundred and twenty tons of hay. Both the house and barn are equipped with electric lights generated by an electric light plant located on the farm. He also has a waterworks which makes possible the furnishing of the house with modern plumbing fixtures. The water is compressed in a tank located in the cellar. Mr. Johnson also owns an automobile which insures rapid transit and conserves a great deal of time. All in all, Mr. Johnson enjoys all the conveniences of modern life and is reaping the fruits of his labor. Mr. Johnson is deeply interested in high grade stock and, though formerly a breeder of Durham cattle, now keeps a fine herd of Holstein cattle as well as Duroc-Jersey hogs.

In 1882 John C. Johnson was married to Christena Tornstrand, a native of Sweden. To this happy union there have been born nine children, as follow: Oscar is at home with his parents; Edna married Allen Kellerman and lives in Bluffton township; Edwin died at the age of fourteen; Ella married Victor Marine and lives in Minneapolis; Emma married Albert Schwartz and lives at Wadena; Julius, Ester, John and Edith live at home with their parents.

John C. Johnson has always taken an active part in the civic and social life of his community. More or less independent in politics, he has served

as school director and as chairman of the board of supervisors of Bluffton township, serving both positions to the utmost satisfaction of his constituency. He plays no small part in the commercial circles of Bluffton township, being both director of the telephone company and of the creamery of Wadena. Raised as a supporter of the Lutheran faith, he still supports this denomination and takes an active part in church affairs.

MRS. MARTHA (HILDEN) LARSON.

The life of Mrs. Martha Larson has exerted an influence which has been uplifting as well as sympathetic upon those with whom she came in contact. As a valuable companion of her husband, during the days of his early struggles in the uncultivated sections of Minnesota, she proved to be a woman of rare wisdom, firm convictions and true sympathy. The success attained by her husband was attributed by him to the efforts of his wife, whose presence and advice lent inspiration to his business endeavors. Those who had the good fortune to know Mrs. Larson, speak of her as a woman whose life was full to the brim. Her usefulness has extended along various lines until she can truthfully be classed with those women whose descendants "rise up and call them blessed."

The birthplace of Martha Hilden was at Holland, Norway, where she was born on the 9th of February, 1847. She was the daughter of Johannes Hilden, a resident of Norway, who spent the greater part of his life as a farmer in that country, where he is now buried. The aim Martha Hilden had in coming to this country was to join her brother, Peter, who was located in Goodhue county, Minnesota. She arrived in that section of the country on the 14th of July, 1868, where she lived with her brother until the 7th of November, 1870, when her marriage to Ole Swensen, also a native of Norway, took place.

Shortly after their marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Swenson came to Otter Tail county, Minnesota, where they homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of land in Clitherall township, located in section 18. The land was a wilderness covered with timber and underbrush and the task of removing the growth of vegetation was both difficult and dangerous. The toilers were left upon their own resources, and as the community was only scantily inhabited, assistance could be obtained only after delayed communication. It was in the capacity as a farmer's wife that Mrs. Swensen proved her greatest worth. She and her husband were obliged to live in a dugout for two years, until they were able to erect a log house, which, in part, is still standing on the farm, a landmark of the early privations endured by the pioneers. After their struggles had terminated in enjoyment and prosperity, Mrs. Swenson lost her husband on the 3rd of May, 1880. His

death occurred shortly after he had reached his thirty-eighth year. He and his wife were devout members of the Norwegian Synod church, and among its first members.

To the union of Mr. and Mrs. Swenson, the following children were born: Mary, who died at the age of eleven years; John, who passed away at the age of twenty-five years; Helma, who married Harold Halvorson, and who resides at Henning, Minnesota; Alfred, who died in infancy; Mary (Mrs. Carl Gilbertson), who resides near Battle Lake; Julia, who makes her home with her mother, and Lottie, who is also at home.

On the 17th of November, 1889, Mrs. Swenson became the wife of Andrew Larson, a native of Eidswold, Norway, who came to America about 1868, where he lived for a time in Goodhue county, Minnesota. Upon his arrival in Otter Tail county he took a homestead claim on one hundred and sixty acres in sections 21 and 28, in Clitherall township. At the time of his meeting with Mrs. Swenson, Mr. Larson had five children, who were born to his marriage to Mrs. Martha Paulson, a widow, who passed away in 1888. The children who survived Mrs. Martha Larson are: Mary (Mrs. Albert Beardsley), a resident of Fergus Falls, Minnesota; Clara, the wife of Francis Vennerstrom, who lives in White Fish, Montana; Alfred, of New Ellington, South Dakota; Amanda, who married Clarence Rolandson, of Fergus Falls, and Martha who makes her home with an aunt in Dakota. One child Louis, died in infancy.

After his marriage to Mrs. Swenson, Mr. Larson took full charge of the homestead at Battle Lake, where he proved his ability to meet the problems of agricultural life with courage and strength of will. He worked unceasingly upon improvements on the land. He built a large barn, cleared large tracts of land surrounding the place and before his death bought one hundred and thirty-three acres joining the original farm, located in section 7. Mr. Larson was a man of progressive spirit, high ideals and force of character. At the time of his death he was interested in many lines of farm work and enjoyed a wide and popular acquaintance among the citizens of the community in which he lived. In his political interests he was a Republican. He was a member of the Norwegian Lutheran church, in whose welfare he took a keen interest. Mr. Larson passed away on the 3rd of January, 1907, and after that his wife continued to live a retired life on the farm, to the excellent state of cultivation of which she so generously contributed in former years. Her life was, on account of its usefulness, singularly happy and beautiful and the memory of her good works will be cherished by those children for whom she sacrificed many pleasures.

By her union with Mr. Larson, the subject of this sketch became the mother of the two children. Louis, who lives on the home place, which he

manages most successfully, is interested in the breeding of Holstein cattle and Poland China hogs. His brother, Clarence, assists him in the farm work.

Mrs. Martha (Hilden) Larson passed away on the 18th of August, 1913, and is buried in the Norwegian Lutheran cemetery.

JENS NELSON.

One of the venerable citizens and successful farmers of Clitherall township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, is Jens Nelson, who was born at Skane, Sweden, July 21, 1831. He is the son of Nels and Elsie Okeson, who spent their entire lives in Sweden. The father was a farmer and land-owner, and was born in 1804, his death occurring in 1851. His wife was born in 1808 and died in 1860. They were earnest and devoted members of the Lutheran church and were the parents of a family of eight children.

Of the children born to Nels and Elsie Okeson, Oke was born in 1826; Nels in 1827; John, who was born in 1830, is a farmer of Clitherall township; Peter born in 1833, was also a farmer in Clitherall township until his death in 1913; Burnet was born in 1836; Anna, who was born in 1839, married Nels Matheson, and died in Denmark; Louis, born in 1842, died at the age of seventeen years; Frank, the youngest, was born in 1845.

Jens Nelson was educated in the public schools of his native country, and after his marriage and the birth of four children, and the death of one, emigrated to America in 1870, making the voyage on a steamship. Upon the arrival of the Nelson family in the United States, they settled at Litchfield, Minnesota, where they lived for one year, when they moved to Otter-Tail county, where they homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of land in Clitherall township. The land was largely covered with timber. Mr. Nelson started life in the new country by constructing a dugout, but in 1878 built a log house, which is still standing, and which is still used as a residence.

Jens Nelson was married in his native land to Elna Anderson and to this union have been born ten children: Nels, who died at the age of three in Sweden; Andrew, who died at Moorhead, Minnesota, at the age of sixteen; Johanna, the wife of Charles Larson, lives at Liberty, Canada; Emma, the wife of William Curinger, lives at Cass Lake, Minnesota; John, who died at the age of eleven; Frank A., who is referred to later on in this sketch, lives at home and operates the home farm; Ella, who died at the age of nineteen; August, a resident of Lunds Valley, is a wheat buyer; Ida, the wife of William McCormick, lives at Minot, North Dakota; Amanda, the wife of Anton Morrau, lives at Delaware, North Dakota.

Of these children, Frank A., who was born on the farm where he now

lives, and which he now operates, was educated in the public schools of his home township, and reared to the life of a farmer. Since he was old enough he has been engaged in agricultural pursuits, and during the past eight or ten years, has rented the farm of his father. He is a Democrat in politics, and is a constable in Clitherall township.

Jens Nelson was one of the founders of the Swedish Lutheran church in Clitherall township, of which his family are devoted and earnest members.

FRITZ LUEDERS.

It means much for the young man to sever the ties of home, to leave his native land for the uncertainties of a new world, here to establish a new home and meet the requirements of a new condition. To make a success of his work, means much hard work and good judgment. Many of the Old World boys and young men have succeeded in America, but only by strict application and hard work. The German coming to this country, comes with the desire and determination to meet with success and make a home worthy of his efforts.

Fritz Lueders, son of John and Margretta (Thalman) Lueders, was born in Germany on June 24, 1859. John and Margretta Lueders were life-long residents of Hanover, Germany. The family were members of the German Lutheran church. John and Margretta Lueders were the parents of the following children: Herman, Mary, Dora and Fritz. Herman, Mary and Fritz came to this country, while Dora remained in the homeland.

Fritz Lueders was educated in the schools of Germany. As a young man he came to America on March 22, 1881, and landed in New York, but soon resumed his journey to Brown county, Minnesota. Here he worked for others for a year and, later, he worked in Sibley county, Minnesota, for seven months. After this, he visited the home in his native land, for two months. On returning to America he located in Otter Tail county, purchasing three hundred and eighty acres of land one-half mile northwest of Otter Tail.

Fritz Lueders was united in marriage to Dora Dunkers, the daughter of Henry Dunkers, and to this union has been born the following children, Henry, Fred, Ella, Herman, George, Olga and Martha. Henry, Fred and Ella are married and have homes of their own.

Mr. Lueders has reclaimed his farm from a wild state to a beautiful country home. He has a large and modern house, two large barns, silo, and other buildings and sheds necessary to a well-kept farm estate. Mr. Lueders has held the important office of school treasurer for twenty years, and treasurer of the township for ten years. He and his family are active members of the German Lutheran church at Otter Tail.

OLE O. HOVLAND.

For over a half century, Minnesota and her agricultural opportunities have been extolled in other lands, and to her farms have come people of every country. The industrious, thrifty Norwegian has been among the settlers, and in almost every instance he has come fully prepared for self-support and for assuming the responsibilities of citizenship. One who represents most broadly this strong element in American citizenship, is Ole O. Hovland, who after many years of a busy life is able to look back upon his accomplishments with satisfaction. He was born in Hadeland, Norway, on December 17, 1837, and is the son of Ole Hanson and Joran Olesdatter.

The parents of Ole Hovland were born in Norway and spent most of their married life in the country of their nativity. Their last days, however, were spent in America, on the farm owned by their son, Nels Hovland, in Trondhjem township, where the father died in 1888, and the mother passed away in 1893. They reared a large family, of whom the following information is given: Gilbert, a farmer, is now residing in Wert county, Iowa; Hans, who died in Iowa, was also a farmer; Ole is the subject of this sketch; Syver lives in Trondhjem township, where he has a farm; Nels lives near Lawndale, in Wilkin county, and Otto is a farmer in Trondhjem township.

The educational advantages received by Ole Hovland were, according to the customs of that locality and period, extremely meager. The principal lessons of his life were gained in the early years during his boyhood on the farm in Norway. The remarkable fact of his career is that with so small a fund of educational resources, he was able to cope with the problems of an independent life in this country and win success. In 1867 he came to America, a journey that covered a period of over seven weeks. He settled in Winisheik county, Iowa, where he lived for four years, working as a farmer. In 1871 he came to Otter Tail county, Minnesota, in a covered wagon drawn by a team of oxen. In this county, he began the task of homesteading one hundred and twenty acres of land located in section 26 of Trondhjem township. The land was wild prairie and the task of breaking up the soil and cutting the timber was the first to be considered. A log house was built by Mr. Hovland during his first months of residence on the place and there he lived until 1883, when he purchased two hundred acres in section 25 of the same township. He moved upon this land where he now resides. The farm represents a large investment of modern improvements and is devoted exclusively to general farming. Mr. Hovland sold the homestead a few years ago to his son Olans, and after his retirement in 1907, rented part of the land to his son, Lewis.

Mr. Hovland has not been content to work in just one field of enterprise, but has reached out into broader interests where his influence has been lasting for the welfare of the community. For a number of years he acted as school treasurer and was active as road supervisor for some time. He has always been an ardent member of the Synod Lutheran church, in which congregation his wife is also a valuable assistant.

On November 14, 1863, the marriage of Ole Hovland to Anna Teslo, a native of Norway, took place. She is a daughter of Arne and Annie (Wika) Teslo, Norwegians by birth, who died in their native land. Mrs. Hovland was born on September 14, 1840, in the same community where her husband spent his childhood. In 1913, fifty years after their marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Holland celebrated their golden wedding anniversary, amid much rejoicing and among a group of old and intimate acquaintances. The celebration was a fitting climax to fifty years of patient toil, devotion to duty and true home building. The following children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Hovland: Julia married O. J. Aamodt and later died in Barnesville, Minnesota; Mary, who lives near Barnesville, became the wife of A. P. Stadum, and after his death married Ole Stone; Olans lives on his father's homestead; Anton, a farmer, resides in North Dakota; Thea, the wife of O. S. Osten, lives in Norwegian Grove township; Lewis manages part of his father's estate and has never married; Sophia, the widow of A. H. Kittelson, lives in Norwegian Grove township; John, who follows farming resides near Stampede, North Dakota; Minnie, the wife of O. B. Ulsrud, lives in Columbus, North Dakota; C. Edwin, a banker, lives in Cotone, North Dakota; Ida (Mrs. A. O. Sommerness), is residing in Columbus, North Dakota; Ida Caroline died at the age of four years, and Oliver died at the age of seven.

HANS LARSON.

Hans Larson, well-known farmer and highly-respected citizen of Amor township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, was born in Sweden, on August 10, 1864, the son of Lars and Hannah (Olson) Hanson, both of whom were born in Sweden. Lars Hanson came to America in 1880, and located in Otter Tail county, where he joined his son, Hans, who had preceded him a short time. Lars Hanson now lives at Battle Lake, having retired from more active life. Lars and Hannah Hanson were the parents of four children, Lewis, Nels, Olef and Hans. Hannah, the wife of Lars Hanson died on September 7, 1914. Hans Hanson is one of the well and favorably known citizens of his community, taking an active interest in all useful matters for the promotion of the life and interests of his locality. The

elder Hanson is especially interested in the Swedish Lutheran church, of Amor, of which he is a leading member.

Hans Larson was educated in the common schools of Sweden, after which he came to America, in 1888, and located in Otter Tail county, following a short time in St. Paul, Minnesota. In the year 1891, Mr. Larson bought a farm in Amor township, a place to which he later added forty acres of land, and a farm on which he now lives as a general farmer.

On July 12, 1893, Hans Larson was married to Emily Lundstrom, who was born in Otter Tail county, on August 8, 1874, the daughter of A. O. Lundstrom and wife, natives of Sweden, who came to America and homesteaded a farm in Clitherall township, Otter Tail county, where they now live. To the marriage of Hans and Emily Larson have been born three children, Amy, Lawrence and Edith, the former of whom is married to Rex H. Sanders, of Bismarck, North Dakota. Hans Larson and his family are members of the Swedish Lutheran church, in which he is a prominent member, he for many years having been teacher of the Sunday school of this church.

JOHN J. TOMHAVE.

John J. Tomhave is one of the representative agriculturists of Carlisle township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, and his life is typical of the progressive spirit of the community. He is a native of Germany, where his birth occurred on July 27, 1858. He is the son of John Tomhave and a brother of George E. Tomhave, of Fergus Falls township, Otter Tail county. John J. Tomhave received his education in the schools of Germany, Fontenac, Wisconsin and in Fergus Falls. As a young man his time was devoted to the vocation of masonry, which trade was also followed by his father.

In 1884 Mr. Tomhave became interested in agriculture and purchased a farm in Carlisle township on which he has since remained. With the exception of one winter, he has lived his entire life in this locality since his arrival in America. His first farm consisted of one hundred and sixty acres, located in section 27, Carlisle township, but he has increased his holdings until he now owns three hundred and twenty acres, all in this township. He also owns eighty acres in section 30, Fergus Falls township, about twenty-one acres in the city of Fergus Falls, located in the third ward and twelve and one-half acres of timber land in section 28, Elizabeth township, Otter Tail county. His agricultural operations consists in general farming and the place is well improved.

John J. Tomhave was united in marriage to Carlena Schmidt, daughter of Ludwig Schmidt, and they are the parents of seven children whose names follow: Louis A., Mary, Emelia, Clara, John, Bertha and Albert. John

J. Tomhave and his wife are members of the German Evangelical church, of which denomination he is the treasurer. Politically, he is affiliated with the Republican party and has served as clerk of the school board. He is also a member of the Sons of Herman and is at present supervisor of Carlisle township, Otter Tail county.

NELS M. NELSON.

To record the personal career of men who have raised themselves from humble circumstances to positions of responsibility and trust in a community, is no ordinary pleasure. Self-made men, men who have achieved success by reason of their personal qualities and who have impressed their individuality upon the business development and agricultural life of their community, have an important influence upon such institutions as have come within the sphere of their usefulness. Of such, we have the unquestionable right to say is Nels M. Nelson, a prosperous farmer of Aurdal township.

Mr. Nelson was born on April 4, 1885, in Aurdal township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, on his father's old homestead farm. He is the son of Nels E. and Methe (Hallan) Nelson, who came to America from Norway. Mr. Nelson's father was born in Norway on December 17, 1844, and his mother in the same country on January 6, 1850. Nels E. Nelson, who passed away in this township and county, in 1909, was the son of Ingebret and Aaste Nelson, both of whom were natives of Norway, who settled in Aurdal township, Otter Tail county, in 1868. They took a homestead farm of one hundred and sixty acres in this township and here spent the balance of their lives. Before coming to Otter Tail county, Mr. Nelson's father had lived for a time in Goodhue county. He was a typical pioneer of this section, who took a great interest in public improvements. He had one of the best farms in this part of Otter Tail county. Many years before his death, he erected a magnificent brick house, made of bricks burned on the farm. His wife, now a widow, is still living on the old farm. Mr. and Mrs. Nels E. Nelson were the parents of three children, Anna, Nels and Henry P. The Nelsons have always been identified with the Lutheran church and have always been prominent in religious affairs.

Nels M. Nelson, who was reared on his father's old home farm, was educated in the public schools of his home community and, during his boyhood and youth, performed the tasks which generally fall to the lot of the average country boy. In 1914, Mr. Nelson bought the Martin Halverson farm, comprising one hundred and sixty acres of splendid land. He is a general farmer and stock man and has been very successful, although he is a young man and has many years before him in which to work out his life's success.

On October 25, 1909, Nels M. Nelson was married to Anna Golberg, who was born in Olmstead county, Minnesota, in 1889, and who is the daughter of Endrew O. and Mary Golberg. After living for many years in Olmstead county, Minnesota, they came to Otter Tail county, about 1900 and are now residents of Sverdrup township. Mr. and Mrs. Nels M. Nelson have two children, Norris and Kenneth.

Mr. Nelson has always been independent in politics. He cares more for measures and men than he does for parties and party emblems. He has served in many positions of trust and responsibility, especially positions of local trust. For a number of years, he was a supervisor of Aurdal township and, for three years, was chairman of the board. He has also served as a member of the school board and as clerk of the board. Mr. and Mrs. Nels M. Nelson are members of the Lutheran church.

GEORGE R. KAPLER.

George R. Kapler is one of the well-known and representative citizens of Perham, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, and his influence has been a dominant factor in the development of the locality. He is one of ten children born to the union of O. and Barbara (Bachel) Kapler, natives of Wittenburg, Germany, and Iowa, respectively.

O. Kapler was born in 1841 and immigrated to America in 1852. He immediately located on a farm in Winneshiek county, Iowa, and at the age of twenty years enlisted in Company C, Twenty-first Iowa Regular Infantry, and served throughout the Civil War. He became commissary sergeant and was in the battle of Vicksburg and Gettysburg, as well as in many others, receiving many wounds, one of which caused his death in after years. At the close of the war he returned to Iowa and shortly afterward married Barbara Bachel, who is still living. To them were born the following children, George, Caroline, Rose, Anna, Louise, Regena, Frank, Gertrude, and two others who died in infancy. From the time of his marriage, O. Kapler resided in Spillville, Winneshiek county, Iowa, until his death on September 1, 1912. Most of the time he practiced law, but operated a hotel as well. Religiously, he was a member of the Catholic church.

George R. Kapler was born on November 7, 1866, in Spillville, Winneshiek county, Iowa, and received his education in the schools of that town. In the fall of 1885 he removed to North Dakota, where he was engaged in the capacity of dry-goods clerk until 1896, at which time he transferred his services to the firm of Wyman Partridge & Co., wholesale dry-goods merchants, as their traveling representative and has since remained in their employ. In April, 1896, he removed to Wadena, Minnesota, but in 1903 his location was changed to Perham, Minnesota, where he remained for

two years, removing to Big Pine Lake, Minnesota, in 1905, and establishing a summer resort known as Grand View Heights. This resort is one of the finest in the state. In June, 1915, this place was sold and he has since devoted his time to the management of the Perham Land and Investment Company, which he organized in 1912. He is the president of this company. Politically, he is a staunch Republican and fraternally, he is a member of the Free and Accepted Masons and Zuhrah Temple, Ancient Arabic Order of Nobles of the Mystic Shrine, Minneapolis. On October 29, 1890, Mr. Kapler was united in marriage to Frances E. Bell, who was born on August 20, 1866, and reared in Mansfield, Ohio.

EDWARD J. RUDH.

Edward J. Rudh, a former teacher, merchant and salesman, who has been assistant cashier of the First National Bank of Battle Lake, this county, Minnesota, since its organization, is a native of Norway, born at Smaalene, near Christiania, April 6, 1860, the son of Jens A. and Maria (Kasa) Rudh, farmers and landowners in their native land, who, in the latter part of that same month, sailed for America with their baby, spending six weeks on the voyage. Upon their arrival in America, they settled in Rice county, Minnesota, where, for two years, Mr. Rudh worked on neighboring farms.

In 1871 the family moved to Otter Tail county and purchased three hundred and twenty acres of wild prairie land in Dane Prairie township. There Mr. Rudh built a small log cabin, which has long since disappeared, and there he lived, improving his farm and adding to his possessions until his death, March 28, 1900. His widow afterward moved to Battle Lake and died at the home of her son, John, December 11, 1914, she then being eighty-six years old. Both were members of the Hauge Lutheran church.

To Jens A. and Maria (Kasa) Rudh were born eight children, namely: Ole, who is a veterinary surgeon of Portal, North Dakota; John, who is manager of the farmers elevator at Battle Lake; Andrew, who is a farmer in Dane Prairie township; Christine, who married Palmer Awenby and lives in Fergus Falls; Edward J., the subject of this sketch; Thea, who married Charles Lacer and lives in Crookstown, Minnesota; Sophia, who married August Matson and lives at Rose Glen, North Dakota, and Helmer, who died at the age of thirteen years.

Edward J. Rudh received a liberal education in the common schools of Dane Prairie township, the seminary at Red Wing and in the high school at Fergus Falls, later becoming a student in the business college at Moorhead, Minnesota, now known as Concordia College.

After completing his schooling Mr. Rudh taught school for three years in Norman county, Minnesota, and served four years as deputy county



EDWARD J. RUDIL

treasurer of Otter Tail county. In 1895, he located at Battle Lake where he was engaged in the mercantile business until 1906. During 1906 and 1907, he was a traveling salesman. Upon the organization of the First National Bank, he was made assistant cashier, a position which he still holds.

In 1898 Edward J. Rudh was married to Dinah Peterson, who was born at Underwood, Minnesota, daughter of Knut Peterson, a biographical sketch of whom is presented elsewhere in this volume. Mrs. Rudh died on April 5, 1905, and the next year, Mr. Rudh married, secondly, Eliza Mickelson, who was born in Otter Tail county, the daughter of Ole M. Mickelson, an old settler of Everts township, who is also mentioned elsewhere in this volume. By the first marriage, Mr. Rudh had three children, Evelyn, Maurine and Byron. There are no children by the second marriage.

Edward J. Rudh is well known in Otter Tail county for his cordial disposition and for his friendly relations with the public. He is a Republican and gives a good citizen's attention to the county's political affairs, having served as village recorder for twelve years. He and his wife are members of the United church. Fraternally, Mr. Rudh is a member of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks and of the Modern Woodmen of America.

OLE W. BERG.

Ole W. Berg, who is the owner of a fertile farm of eighty acres in Everts township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, and an interest in the old homestead farm of his parents, is a native of Norway, where his birth occurred on April 30, 1874.

Mr. Berg is a son of Anton C. and Anne (Glende) Berg, both of whom were natives of Norway. Mr. Berg's father was born in 1839 and his mother in 1845. They were married in Norway, and in the spring of 1880, came with their family to America, settling in Otter Tail county, where they purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land, and also homesteaded seventy-three acres. From the time of his coming to Otter Tail county, until his death in 1897, Anton C. Berg made many and substantial improvements upon the homestead farm, and his widow is now living on this farm. She is an earnest and faithful member of the Lutheran church, as were all the family. Anton Berg and wife were the parents of ten children, all of whom are living with the exception of Annette, the eldest. The living children are as follow: Carl, Martin, Ole W., Anna, Inga, Emma, Sophia, Alfred and Karen.

Of these children, Ole W., the fourth in order of birth, was reared on the farm in Everts township, receiving his education in the public schools

of the township. Mr. Berg has always been engaged in farming. He is a general farmer and stockman and has been very successful in his chosen calling. Like the other members of the family, he is a member of the Lutheran church. He has been a member of the township school board for the past three years, and has always been more or less prominent in local politics.

ROBSON C. ATKINSON.

Robson C. Atkinson, a well-to-do farmer of Newton township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, was born in the state of Illinois, August 2, 1852. Mr. Atkinson's boyhood home was near Joliet, Illinois. He is the son of John and Sarah (Robson) Atkinson, both of whom were natives of England and who were married in their native land.

After coming to this country from England, Mr. and Mrs. John Atkinson settled in the state of Illinois, where they rented land for some years. Subsequently, they moved to Minnesota, and there homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of land. Upon selling their farm, the family moved to Wabasha county, Minnesota, and purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land. Mr. Atkinson's father died in Rochester, Minnesota, in 1913, and his mother in Wabasha county, Minnesota, in 1877. They were the parents of eleven children, Mary Ann, Robson C., Sarah, Oliver, Fannie, Charlotte, Grace, Frank, Daisy, Hattie and Dorcas.

Robson C. Atkinson was reared on a farm and educated in the public schools. He accompanied his parents to Minnesota, and, when a young man, moved to Yellow Medicine county, Minnesota, and took a "tree claim" of one hundred and sixty acres, which he kept for about two years. Afterward Mr. Atkinson purchased sixty acres of land, which he owned for four years. After selling out, in 1877, he came to Otter Tail county and took a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres in section 20, of Henning township. Later he added eighty acres and had, at the time he sold the farm, two hundred and forty acres. Subsequently, he purchased two hundred and forty acres in section 5, and also forty acres in section 2, all of which was situated in Henning township. After selling this farm in October, 1903, Mr. Atkinson came to Newton township and purchased five hundred and fifty-two acres besides two hundred acres in Inman township. He has sold his land until he now owns ninety-two acres in section 20, where he lives, and one hundred and twenty acres in section 22. Mr. Atkinson is a general farmer and stockman and has been very successful, not only in farming, but in buying and selling land.

Many years ago Robson C. Atkinson was married at Lake Pappin, Wisconsin, to Minnie Oliver, who was born in Wabasha county, Minnesota, in

1859, and whose father, Orris Oliver, was a pioneer of Wabasha county. Mr. and Mrs. Atkinson have been the parents of seven children, all of whom are living, Willie, George Harley, Fred, Ida, Hattie, Ray and Della.

Mr. Atkinson served as supervisor of Henning township for a number of years and was also clerk of the school board for some time. In Newton township, where he now lives, he is rated as one of the most successful farmers and business men. He is a popular citizen and has a host of friends in the community where he resides.

CHARLES S. JOSLIN.

Born in a log cabin in Cattaraugus county, New York, August 9, 1853. Charles S. Joslin, a well-known farmer of Oak Valley township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, is a son of Artenus and Charlotte (Grandy) Joslin. Mr. Joslin's father was a native of Pennsylvania, born on June 12, 1812. His mother, who was a native of Potsdam, St. Lawrence county, New York, was born in 1817.

The Joslin family settled in Cattaraugus county, New York, in an early day, and lived there for some years, and in 1869 came to Rice county, Minnesota, and after living at Fairbairn for one year, moved to LeSueur county, Minnesota, where they purchased a farm, and here Mr. Joslin's father died on August 7, 1881, at the age of sixty-nine years. His mother died in 1892, aged seventy-five years. They were the parents of eight children, of whom one, Adaline, is deceased. The living children are Sarah, Oscar, Edgar, Evaline, Charles S., Emma and Adelbert.

Reared on a farm in Cattaraugus county, New York, Charles S. Joslin received his education in the public schools of that county, and when seventeen years of age accompanied his parents to Rice county, Minnesota, and then to LeSueur county, and in 1882 emigrated to Otter Tail county, and took a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres in section 20, Oak Valley township. There he lived until 1896, when he sold out and purchased eighty acres in section 17, Oak Valley township, where he now resides. Mr. Joslin has erected good buildings on his farm, and has constructed a large silo for the storing of feed for his live stock, and has made many substantial improvements on the place. His farm is one of the most productive and fertile in the township, and here he carries on a general system of farming and stock raising, and for the past fourteen years has also been engaged in threshing, and in the operation of a saw-mill in connection with farming. He was one of the organizers of the creamery at Lyman, and is its largest stockholder.

In 1876 Mr. Joslin was married to Elizabeth Chantler, a native of England, and the daughter of William Chantler, who came to America in

1852, and located in LeSueur county, Minnesota. Mrs. Joslin's father died in the latter county. His wife, before her marriage, was Harriet Bartholme, who died in LeSueur county, Minnesota, June 7, 1886.

Charles S. Joslin and wife are the parents of three children, Clarence, whose wife was Grace Burnet before her marriage, has two children, Leo and Ralph; Georgja, the wife of Mont McKellep, has four children, Kenneth, Dorothy, Lola and Beulah; Chlours, the wife of Henry Wallingford, of Hubbard county, Minnesota.

Mr. Joslin has been prominent in the political and civic life of his township for many years. He served a number of years on the township board as supervisor, and for some years was clerk of the school board. He is a highly-respected farmer and citizen of this part of the county, where he has made his home for so many years.

OLE M. SOMMERNESS.

Many of the men most influential in promoting the industrial affairs of Otter Tail county, Minnesota, trace their success to the inheritance of the Norwegian traits of character. The attributes of thrift, integrity and perseverance which are inherent in the natures of the highest types of the citizens of Norway have found expression in the works of those men who came to the agricultural sections of Minnesota, when that state was in the earliest stage of her development. In the colony which settled in the county referred to above, probably no member has attained greater distinction than Ole M. Sommerness, whose business ability and firm convictions have won for him the respect of those with whom he has come in contact.

Ole M. Sommerness was born at Graso, Nordland, seventy-two miles north of Trondhjem, Norway, on the 9th of June, 1842, and is the son of Marcus Olson and Karen Jacobson. His father was a native of Denmark and his mother of Norway. Marcus Olson moved to Norway at the age of twelve years, and after reaching manhood followed the fisherman's occupation which was not an uncommon form of employment in that locality where he lived. He married in his native land and for a number of years made part of his living from a small piece of land which he had purchased and on which he kept a few cattle. After his death, which occurred when he was just forty-two years old, his wife married Carl Olson, and lived to the age of sixty years. By her first marriage she became the mother of the following children: Marelus, who died in Norway; Gitlov, who became the wife of Syver Hammer, and who died in Otter Tail county; Ovidia, the wife of Lodvik Kram, who lives in Norway; Jacob, a resident of Norway, and Ole, who is referred to in this sketch. By her marriage to Mr. Olson, she became the mother of Martha, a daughter who died in Norway;

Vidia and Annie, who are still living in Norway, and Marelus, who died when he was young.

Ole Sommerness was educated in the public schools of his native land. As a young man he became interested in the fishing industry, one of the most important industries of the country in which he was reared and as a result he followed the fisherman's trade until 1869, when he left Norway for this country. He settled, after arriving in America, in Goodhue county, Minnesota, where he worked for two years on the farms in that locality. His initial entrance into Otter Tail county was made in 1871, when he came to this section and bought a farm of eighty acres located in section 16, in Trondhjem township. The land was devoid of improvements of any kind. The nature of the land was rolling prairie. One of the first difficult pieces of labor with which the subject of this sketch was obliged to deal was the building of a log cabin. The house is still standing, north of the present residence and is a landmark of the simple achievement of a pioneer. After he had broken up a large part of the wild land, Mr. Sommerness began to add to his farm possessions until now he owns a place of over four hundred and forty acres, most of which is located in sections 15 and 16. To the original farm he has added a number of valuable improvements. The management of the farm is devoted almost exclusively to general farming and stock raising. In 1905, Mr. Sommerness retired from active work on the farm and turned over its management to his son, Carl, who has rented the land for over ten years. Carl Sommerness has given evidence of his possession of the same sterling attributes of character which were so characteristic of the business life of his father. He has discharged the duties assumed by him on the farm in a manner deserving of the highest commendation and trust.

In his political interests, Ole Sommerness has always been an independent voter. He has taken an active part in those affairs for the welfare of the community and for a time served on the township school board. He attends the Lutheran church of which his wife is also a member.

The marriage of Ole Sommerness and Julia Anderstatter, a native of Tysmark, Sweden, was solemnized on December 18, 1873. She is the daughter of Andrew and Margaret Brynglson, and was married in this country, to which she came alone, in 1871. To the union of Mr. and Mrs. Sommerness the following children have been born: Martin, a resident of Columbus, North Dakota; Caroline, the wife of Ole Rykkin, of Woburn, North Dakota; Antone, who is in business with his brother Martin, a dealer in hardware, furniture and farm implements; Mattie, who resides at home; Carl, who is manager of the home farm, and Albert, who lives in Glendive, Montana, where he is a druggist and a landowner. Mr. and Mrs. Sommer-

ness have extended their filial devotion to two adopted children, Swen Hendrickson, a druggist of Annasa, North Dakota, whom they reared from the age of thirteen years and Clara Wick, who has made her home with them since childhood.

JOHN C. HAUCK.

John C. Hauck, widely known and highly respected farmer of Otto township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, was born in Medina county, Ohio, on July 5, 1877, the son of Simon and Katherine (Schneider) Hauck, the former born at Toledo, Ohio, in the year 1844, and the latter born in Germany, in 1850. Simon Hauck was the son of Alios and Arelia Hauck, both natives of Germany, who came to America and settled in Medina county, Ohio, where they lived for a time and then moved to Toledo, Ohio, after which they came, in the year 1880, to Otter Tail county, where Alios Hauck bought one hundred and sixty acres of land in Pine Lake township, a place to which he later added eighty acres and where he lived until his death in 1891. His widow died in 1899. Alios and Arelia Hauck were the parents of two children, Susie and Simon.

Simon Hauck was educated in the public schools of Toledo, Ohio, after which he moved to Pine Lake township, with his parents, where he engaged in general farming until the death of his father, when he acquired the home farm, a place to which he added until he was the owner of two hundred and eighty acres of well improved and highly cultivated land. Simon Hauck died on June 2, 1914; his widow, Katherine is now living in Otter Tail county. Simon and Katherine Hauck were the parents of the following children: Mary (deceased), Lillie, Minnie, Alice (deceased), John, Julia, Joseph, George, Simon (deceased), Annie, Ida and Michael.

John C. Hauck, the subject of this sketch, received his education in the schools of Pine Lake township, Otter Tail county, and then became a farmer at twenty years of age, buying forty acres of land in section 33, Pine Lake township, to which he later added eighty acres in section 4, Otto township, forty acres in section 22, Pine Lake township, and ten acres in section 6, Homestead township, and eighty acres in the town of Otto. On his splendid farm of two hundred and ninety acres of well-cared-for land, John C. Hauck engages in general farming and in stock raising.

On April 30, 1900, John C. Hauck was married to Maggie Brown, who was born in Pine Lake township, the daughter of John and Mary (Keidel) Brown, pioneer farmers of Pine Lake township, where John Brown lived until his death in 1900, and where his widow, Mary, is now living. To the marriage of John C. and Maggie Hauck have been born six children, John, Marcella, Elvina, Angie, Clarence and Marcus.

GUSTAF S. INGWALD.

Gustaf S. Ingwald, who was born on November 6, 1863, in Sweden, owns ninety-four acres of land in Compton township, and in the community where he lives, is rated as a successful farmer.

Mr. Ingwald is a son of Swan Ingwald and Christine Anderson, both of whom were natives of Sweden, and who, after their marriage in their native land, came to America in 1881. Upon landing at New York city, the parents proceeded direct to Compton township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, where they shortly obtained eighty acres of land in section 19. They lived on this farm the remainder of their lives, but the farm had in the meantime, been increased to one hundred and twenty acres. They were the parents of two children, Gustaf and Julian. The family were all faithful and devout members of the Lutheran church, and the father had received military training in his native country, and had served in the Swedish army.

Gustaf S. Ingwald received a part of his educational training in the schools of his native land, and upon coming to America, was a student for some time in the public schools of Compton township. Mr. Ingwald is now the owner of ninety-four acres of land, on which he built a nice home.

On May 7, 1892, Mr. Ingwald was married to Hulda Loine, a native of Sweden, and to this union have been born two children, Arvid and Bernhard, both of whom are living at home with their parents.

Mr. Ingwald, who is an active member of the Lutheran church, has been a justice of the peace in Compton township for a number of years. He also served twelve years on the township board, but is not now a member of the board. Fraternally, Mr. Ingwald is a member of the Equitable Fraternal Union, in which he takes an active interest.

ANDREW A. PETTERSON.

A successful merchant of Battle Lake, Minnesota, is Andrew A. Pettersen, who was born in Fillmore county, Minnesota, July 17, 1863, and who is a son of Peter Anderson and wife, both natives of Norway, who came to the United States from their native land about 1862, settling in Fillmore county, Minnesota, where the former died in 1864, while his widow passed away in Otter Tail county, about 1880. Peter Anderson and wife were the parents of five children, of whom Andrew A. was the youngest born. The other children were Herman, Christian, Gusta and Dorothy.

Andrew A. Pettersen received his education in the public schools of Otter Tail county, where the family came in 1870, and began on his own responsibility by renting a farm in Nidaros township. After following farming for some little time, he was employed as a clerk in a general store at

Clitherall, Minnesota, for one year. In 1904 Mr. Petterson came to Battle Lake, Minnesota, and for the next five years was manager of the Larson & Hansen general store. In 1909 Mr. Petterson purchased this store, which has since been operated under the firm name of A. A. Petterson & Company.

In 1885 Andrew A. Petterson was married to Julia Holstemon, of Clayton county, Iowa, and to this union have been born four children: Gustav, a professor in charge of one of the departments of the Normal school at Mankato, Minnesota. He is a graduate of the University of Minnesota, and has also taken post-graduate work at the same institution. He was the first dean of Vaselen University at Mitchell, South Dakota. Adolph, the second son of Mr. Petterson and wife, who was a graduate of the Fergus Falls high school, and who would have graduated from the dental department of the University of Minnesota, in 1915, died in February, 1915, at the age of twenty-two years. His death was a severe shock to his parents and to his hosts of friends whose confidence he enjoyed in his home community and at school where he was very popular. Ella, who is a graduate of the State Normal School, at Moorhead, Minnesota, taught two years at Campbell, Wilkie county, Minnesota, and also taught in the schools of Appleton, Minnesota. Clarence, the youngest born of Mr. Petterson's children, is a student in the high school at Battle Lake.

Mr. Petterson and family are prominent members of the Lutheran church at Battle Lake, and are prominent citizens of this community, and have worthily discharged all the duties of life, both public and private.

AUGUSTUS G. BURGESS.

Augustus G. Burgess, prominent farmer of Dead Lake township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, was born in Jefferson county, New York, on June 7, 1860, the son of Nathaniel H. and Abigail Jane (Bossuet) Burgess, natives of Canada and Jefferson county, New York, respectively. Nathaniel H. Burgess went to Jefferson county, when a young man, where he married and then, in 1861, came to LeSueur county, Minnesota, and bought one hundred and sixty acres of land, on which he lived for a time and then, selling his place, he bought another farm of eighty acres, which after a time he sold and then came to Otter Tail county, and located at Richville, where the elder Burgess lived until his death in 1911, and where his widow, Abigail Jane, now lives, aged eighty-one years. Nathaniel and Abigail Jane Burgess were the parents of six children, William, Elizabeth, Augustus G., Nathaniel, Henry and Nettie.

Augustus G. Burgess was educated in the public schools of LeSueur county, Minnesota, after which he learned the mason's trade which he followed for fifteen years. He came to Dead Lake township, Otter Tail

county, in 1911, where he bought one hundred and sixty acres of land in section 13, a place which Mr. Burgess has greatly improved and where he now engages in general agricultural pursuits.

On February 7, 1884, Augustus G. Burgess was married to Ida H. Wynn, who was born in LeSueur county, in 1863, and to this marriage was born one son, who now lives in Richville. Ida, the first wife of Augustus G. Burgess died on January 11, 1886. Augustus G. Burgess was married, secondly, on December 20, 1887, to Eva Randall, who was born in Crafts-bury, Vermont, in May, 1858, the daughter of Wilbur and Charlotte (Drew) Randall, who came to LeSueur county, in 1859, and settled near Ottawa on a farm of two hundred and twenty acres, land which Wilbur Randall later sold and then moved to Ottawa, where he died on March 13, 1911. Charlotte, the widow of Wilbur Randall is now living in Ottawa, Minnesota. To the marriage of Augustus and Eva Burgess was born one child, Lola, who is now the wife of John M. Henderson, of Clitherall, Minnesota.

JOHN A. ANDERSON.

John A. Anderson, a prosperous farmer of Nidaros township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, is a native of Eagle Lake township, Otter Tail county, where he was born on November 9, 1871.

Mr. Anderson is the son of John G. and Johanna Sophia Anderson, both of whom were natives of Sweden. Mr. Anderson's father was born in 1838 and his mother in 1844. They were married in Sweden and, in 1870, came to America, settling at Red Wing, in Goodhue county, Minnesota. In the fall of 1870, they moved to Eagle Lake township, Otter Tail county, and took a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres in section 1. Here Mr. Anderson's father worked as a farmer, improving his land until his death on January 23, 1913. Mr. Anderson's mother is still living on the old farm. They were the parents of a large family of children, Hilda, John, Frank, Godfred, Selma, Edward, Delia, William, Hulda, deceased, and one who died in infancy.

John A. Anderson was reared on the old homestead farm and educated in the public schools of the township. He attended the old district No. 72 school and has always been engaged in farming. He formerly owned a farm in Leaf Mountain township, but sold it in 1914. In January, 1908, he purchased one hundred and thirty-eight acres, to which in 1913, he added ninety-one acres. Mr. Anderson now owns two hundred and twenty-nine acres in sections 7 and 18, of Nidaros township.

In 1902 Mr. Anderson was married in the Eagle Lake church to Elizabeth Brown, who was born in Sweden on July 15, 1870, and is the daughter of Frederick Leonard and Mary Brown. Mrs. Anderson's parents came

to America in 1869, settling in Moline, Illinois, and three years later immigrated to Otter Tail county, settling on the farm which their son-in-law, John A. Anderson, now owns. Mrs. Anderson's father died in 1877 and her mother married again, now being Mrs. Magnus Strobeck, and living in Clitherall village. Mr. and Mrs. Anderson have three sons, Frederick, Richard and Lloyd.

Mr. and Mrs. John A. Anderson are members of the Swedish Lutheran church of Eagle Lake. Mr. Anderson's parents were active in the church, his father having been one of the first members of the church in his township. The son has always been active in the church of Eagle Lake township, also. Mr. Anderson has always been active in politics. He served as supervisor of Leaf Mountain township for seven years and six years as supervisor of Nidaros township. He has also served as a member of the school board in Nidaros township for six years.

THOMAS HORAN.

A resident of Otter Tail county since 1880, Thomas Horan, an energetic and industrious farmer of the Battle Lake neighborhood, in Maine township, is widely known throughout that part of the county and is highly respected for his many engaging traits of character. Upon coming to this county, he bought a farm in Maine township, which he has cleared and converted into a very comfortable home place.

Thomas Horan was born in Jo Daviess county, Illinois, both April 12, 1854, son of Martin and Catherine (Dunleavy) Horan, both natives of Ireland. Martin Horan, who was born in Kings county, in the Emerald Isle, came to America in 1832 and plunged into the then practical wilderness of Illinois, locating first at Chicago, which at that time was but a small cluster of log cabins around the old Indian fort. For some years he worked in the lumber camps of Iowa, Wisconsin and Illinois, and in 1847, while living in the latter state, was married, after which he bought a quarter section of heavily timbered land in Jo Daviess county, that state, which he proceeded to clear and upon which he made his home during the rest of his life. He and his wife were the parents of eleven children, all of whom are living save Elizabeth and Martha, the others being, in the order of their birth, Mary, Michael, Thomas, the subject of this sketch; Bernard, Marcus, Catherine, James, Margaret and Ann. Martin Horan and his wife were devout members of the Catholic Church and their children were reared in the faith of the mother church.

Growing to manhood on the old home place in Illinois, Thomas Horan received his early education in Jo Daviess county and there learned practical farming. On March 11, 1880, he arrived in Otter Tail county and bought

a tract of eighty acres of uncleared land in Maine township, which he proceeded to render habitable. He found it pretty "hard grubbing," but he persisted until he presently had a well-tilled place, every furrow of which he broke himself. On October 2, 1894, he was united in marriage to Mary McNulty, who was born in Wisconsin, daughter of Michael and Angeline (McNulty) McNulty, and in 1897 he further improved his place by the erection of a new and substantial house and barn. In 1906 he bought an adjoining tract of forty acres, all of which he also has cleared with the exception of about seven acres, which still require grubbing. The home farm is situated in section 25, and is well known in the neighborhood for its genial hospitality.

To Thomas and Mary (McNulty) Horan three children have been born, Hilda, Leo and Martin, all of whom are unmarried and at home with their parents. Mr. and Mrs. Horan are devout Catholics and their children have been reared in that faith. They have many friends in that neighborhood and are held in high esteem by all who know them. Mr. Horan is a substantial citizen and a very worthy force for good in his neighborhood.

ADISON PETRIE.

Successful farmer, extensive stock raiser, prominent citizen, and public man, Addison Petrie, the subject of this sketch, is a man whom the community values as a citizen, and one in whose record as an office holder and as a man of important affiliation, the township and locality find considerable satisfaction.

Adison Petrie was born in New York state on September 5, 1865, the son of Thomas and Hannah (Nickerson) Petrie. Thomas Petrie was a farmer of Albany county, New York, until his death, in the year 1871. Hannah, the wife of Thomas Petrie, was the mother of two children, Mrs. Peter Brate, of Wadena, and Adison, of this sketch, with whom she lived until her death, on January 29, 1907.

Adison Petrie received his education in the common schools and in the high school of Wadena, Minnesota, after which he became a farmer on the Petrie homestead in Compton township, of Otter Tail county, a place of one hundred and forty-seven acres of land, which Mr. Petrie received as an inheritance from his mother, who homesteaded the farm in the year 1870. On taking possession of his farm, Adison Petrie proceeded to improve the place by erecting a good barn, building a house, and later buying an additional fifty-seven acres, making him the owner of two hundred and four acres at the present time. He installed a gasoline engine for power, in connection with his agricultural pursuits. Mr. Petrie is now engaged as a general farmer, and raises a fine grade of cattle, hogs and sheep.

On December 25, 1888, Adison Petrie was married to Effie Wheeler, who was born in Marseilles, Illinois, on March 10, 1860, the daughter of Andrew and Sarah Ann (Coon) Wheeler, Andrew W. Wheeler having been a farmer, school teacher and merchant of Illinois, Hastings, Nebraska, Wadena, Minnesota, later moving to Washington. He died in the year 1907, his wife surviving him and now living at Wadena, Minnesota. Adison and Effie Petrie are the parents of the following children: George, Ralph and Roy, who are attending their own school, the high school in Wadena, and the normal school of St. Cloud, Minnesota. Adison Petrie and his family are respected and esteemed members of the community at Deer Creek.

In public and official life, Mr. Petrie has held an important position, having served his township for fifteen years on the township board, twelve years of that time as chairman of the board, and is still a member. Mr. Petrie is now clerk of the school district, an office he has occupied with efficiency and dignity for more than twenty years. He is a prominent member of the lodge of Modern Woodmen of America, at Deer Creek, Minnesota, and is prominent in all matters having to do with the progress and advancement of the community and its interests.

H. A. BICKFORD.

Among the men who have distinguished themselves in an eminent degree in the industrial development of the community in which they live is H. A. Bickford, the subject of this sketch. Invincible courage and determined will have given him a place of prominence in the agricultural life of Otter Tail county. H. A. Bickford is a native of Albany, Vermont, having been born there on the 10th of February, 1845. He is the son of Paul Bickford, who was born in Sheffield, Vermont, on June 26, 1819, and Melissa E. Norris, the daughter of Rev. James Norris, who also claimed Vermont as her birthplace, where she was born on September 15, 1819.

The first ancestor of H. A. Bickford, of whom definite facts can be given, is Hezekiah Bickford, who was a farmer during his life in the state of Vermont, where he was born. He was a prominent member of the Baptist church of that locality. His son, Paul, who is the father of H. A. Bickford, was educated in the common schools of Vermont, and came to Otter Tail county in 1870. In his native state of Vermont, Paul Bickford owned a farm of one hundred acres and upon arriving in this county took a homestead claim on one hundred and sixty acres of land in section 22, Maine township, where he continued to reside until his death, in March, 1894. His wife, who passed away on March 28, 1904, became the mother of the following children: James, Zobina, Harley A., Wilbur, Elmer, Anne,

Alice, Kate, Frank and Albina. Of this family the first four members mentioned were soldiers in the Civil War, where the eldst son, James, was shot at the battle of Bull Run, and Zobina died of fever.

H. A. Bickford received his education in the common schools of Vermont. Desirous of obtaining better advantages he later entered the normal school at St. Cloud, Minnesota, from which he was graduated in the teacher's course. The year following his graduation he taught in the St. Cloud Normal school, and after that went to Fergus Falls, where he followed his profession as principal in the schools of that city for a period of four years. For a term extending over four years, Mr. Bickford served as assistant county superintendent of schools, in which capacity his ability as a school man was recognized and which probably led to his being elected county superintendent in 1890, an office he held for two years. During the time he served as a county school official, Mr. Bickford resided in Fergus Falls. During the early part of his career as a teacher, Mr. Bickford taught in the schools of Vermont for a period of thirty terms.

After completing the term as county school superintendent, Mr. Bickford returned to farm life. The farm on which he resides extends over one hundred and thirty acres of land. It is a mark of distinction that he is known throughout the county in which he resides as the oldest homesteader now living in the township. He not only keeps well informed upon all advances made in modern methods of farming, but he enters heartily into every political movement. The citizens of the community in which he resides have honored him with a number of public offices. Aside from the township school offices he has held, he has also served as district treasurer for fifteen years and as township treasurer for thirteen years.

On November 24, 1870, H. A. Bickford was united in marriage to Etta V. Adley, the daughter of R. T. Adley. Mrs. Bickford, who was born on March 16, 1850, became the mother of the following children: Dr. Harley, Adella, who is the wife of A. O. Chapin; Howard, who is residing on the farm with his father; Albina, Seattle, and one foster-child, Gladysce.

OLOF JOHNSON.

Olof Johnson, who has been a resident of this country since 1884, and who owns two hundred and forty acres of excellent farming land in Everts township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, was born in Sweden, August 23, 1864.

Mr. Johnson is the son of John and Kari Johnson, both of whom are natives of Sweden, and who, in 1885, came to this country and settled in this county. John Johnson was born in 1824 and his wife in 1826. She died in 1906. Mr. Johnson's father now lives with his son, Carl, in Amor

township. Of the nine children born to John and Karn Johnson, only three, Chestine, Olof and Carl, are living.

Olof Johnson was educated in the public schools of his native land. After coming to America and settling in Otter Tail county, he purchased one hundred and forty acres of land in Everts township and has since added one hundred acres, having in all, at the present time, two hundred and forty acres. His home is situated on Lost Lake, where he has lived since 1892. He has erected all of the buildings which are now standing on the farm and has a well-improved body of land, which produces abundantly.

In 1896 Mr. Johnson was married to Maggie Olson, who was born in Sweden on February 22, 1862. Mrs. Johnson's parents died in Sweden. Mr. and Mrs. Johnson have no children, but they have adopted three children, Reuben, Walter and Ruth. Of these children, Ruth is deceased.

Mr. and Mrs. Olof Johnson were members of the Lutheran church in Sweden and are now members of the Free Mission church.

HERMAN G. IMDIEKE.

Herman G. Indieke, proprietor of two hundred and forty acres of land in sections 23 and 26, of Bluffton township, Otter Tail county, and secretary of the Farmers Co-operative Creamery Company at Bluffton, was born Indieke, both of whom were born in Oldenburg, Germany, came, singly to the United States and settled in Stearns county, Minnesota. Meeting each other in Stearns county, they were united in marriage in that county and there continued to live. Herman J. Indieke, being a farmer by occupation, came in possession of a tract of land in Stearns county and has followed his occupation in that county ever since. He has taken an active interest in the political and social conditions of his county and served as president of the village of Meier's Grove, as well as filling other local offices of trust and responsibility. He is identified with the Democratic party. Both Mr. and Mrs. Indieke are devoted members of the Catholic church. Nine children have been born to them, as follow: Ben, a farmer of Padua, Minnesota; Joe, also a farmer of Padua; Dinah, who married Nick Brang, and who lived in Stearns county until her death; Eliza, who married Henry Griep, lives in Melrose, Minnesota; Herman G. is the subject of this sketch; Henry, a farmer, who lives in Meier's Grove; Frank, also a farmer of Meier's Grove; Mors, a farmer of Bluffton, and John, who lives at home with his parents.

Herman G. Indieke was reared on his father's farm and educated in the public schools of Meier's Grove. At an early age he learned the brick-making trade in his father's brick yard, which trade he followed for many

years. In 1909 Mr. Imdieke opened a saloon in Meier's Grove and continued in this business for a period of two years, after which time he purchased a threshing outfit and engaged in the threshing business, continuing in the business even after his removal to Otter Tail county. In April, 1913, Herman G. Imdieke removed to Otter Tail county, Minnesota, and bought a farm of two hundred and forty acres in sections 23 and 26, of Bluffton township. He has engaged in general farming and stock raising, being a breeder of Shorthorn cattle. He keeps from thirty to thirty-five head of cattle on his farm. He has also taken an active interest in the organization of the Farmers Co-operative Creamery Company at Bluffton and is at present its secretary.

On November 26, 1907, Herman G. Imdieke was married to Gertrude Breitbach, a native of Lake George, Minnesota, and a daughter of Peter and Katriana (Gau) Breitbach. Peter Breitbach was born in Germany and as a lad emigrated to the United States, settling at Spring Hill, Stearns county, Minnesota, the birthplace of his wife. He first engaged in farming in Stearns county, but later opened a saloon. He died in May, 1897, and his wife survived him seventeen years, passing away in March, 1914, at the age of fifty-three years. To Mr. and Mrs. Herman G. Imdieke have been born four children, Herman Peter, Mary, Wendelin and Marcella.

Herman G. Imdieke has been prominently identified with the Democratic party, and for a period of three years served efficiently as village clerk of Meier's Grove.

EDWARD SJOGREN.

Edward Sjogren, who represents that element in the industrial life of Minnesota which counts for high purpose and great achievement, was born in Lockport, Illinois, on the 25th of August, 1877, and is the son of John and Margaret (Erickson) Sjogren. His father was born in 1839 and his mother in 1844, and both parents were natives of Westerbottom, Sweden. John Sjogren, who was a farmer and a landowner, left Sweden in 1868 with his wife and one daughter. During the journey, which lasted for three weeks, the daughter died at sea. The couple, upon arriving in this country, went to Lockport, Illinois, where Mr. Sjogren was employed for eight years in the stone quarries of that locality. Two years he worked in the paper-mill of the same town. In 1878 he came to Otter Tail county, Minnesota, where he began at once the task of homesteading one hundred and sixty acres of land in section 30. The log house which he erected during these early days of community development is now occupied by Otto Monson as a home. Before his death, Mr. Sjogren sold one hundred and twenty acres of his original farm and lived on the remaining forty

acres. His last days were spent with his sons. He and his wife were members of the Swedish Lutheran church. They became the parents of the following children: The eldest child has been mentioned as dying at sea; Johan, who died in infancy; Ida Sophia, the wife of Nel Olson, who lives in Balfour, North Dakota; John William, who lives with his brother, Edward; Edward, the subject of this sketch; Tillie, now Mrs. B. L. Ophus, who resides in Pelican Rapids, and Alma Josephine, of Black Duck, Minnesota, who is the wife of Simon Thompson.

The early education of Edward Sjogren was received in the public schools of Otter Tail county. From early childhood he was taught the simple duties of farm life, and it was only a natural result of his early training that he should have followed farming as an occupation. In September, 1900, he began to work for R. L. Frazee, in Pelican Rapids, and remained as his employee for seven years. At the present time he is managing an estate of one hundred and seventy acres, which he has bought out of the three hundred acres which he formerly rented for a period of seven years. He gives special attention to the breeding of Durham cattle and keeps sixty head on the farm as an average number. Mr. Sjogren has never permitted the interests of the farm to monopolize his entire attention. During his public career he has been active in Republican party politics and has served as school treasurer and road overseer. He attends the Zion Lutheran church, of which his wife is also a member.

On the 24th of June, 1900, Edward Sjogren was married to Minnie Mattestad, a native of Trondhjem township, and the daughter of Ole Nattestad, an old settler of the same township, who died in Pelican Rapids. To this union the children born are: Evelyn, Helen, Myrne, Lenore Victoria, Marvin Isadore, Jov Willis Oliver and Lillian Bernice.

CHARLES W. KADDATZ.

The proprietor of the hotel which bears his name, Charles W. Kaddatz has enjoyed remarkable success since locating at Fergus Falls, this county, nearly thirty years ago.

Mr. Kaddatz was born near Stateen, Germany, in 1863, the son of Charles and Augusta (Vollbricht) Kaddatz. The Kaddatz family came to America in 1862 and subsequently settled in St. Paul, Minnesota. Charles W. Kaddatz had very few of the opportunities of the average boy to obtain an education, his entire schooling having been limited to one year, and he performed his first work on a farm near St. Paul, where he worked for one year. Later he worked one year for Smith, the confectioner, and two years for the dry goods jobbing business. During the next six years he was employed as a fireman on the railway trains for different railroads, and



CHARLES W. KADDATZ.

finally engaged in the confectionery business on his own account in St. Paul. In this business he obtained a substantial start in life and in 1886 located at Fergus Falls, at that time having a little money that he had saved and some more money than he had borrowed. He there and then engaged in the fruit and confectionery business and carried on that business until 1896, in which year he engaged in the bakery business, which he conducted with phenomenal success until 1914, at which time he decided to build a hotel in Fergus Falls.

Suffice it to say that the hotel was completed and opened in February, 1915. It is one of the finest hotels of the Northwest, modern in every respect and is located in the center of the business district of Fergus Falls. The hotel has been a success from the start. Mr. Kaddatz also has various other interests. He is a president of the Red River Milling Company, president of the Congress Candy Company, at Grand Forks, and a director in the First State Bank of Fergus Falls and in other ways has demonstrated his keen interest in the city's material welfare.

By his marriage to Ida Asslen, who was born at Parkers Prairie, this county, Mr. Kaddatz has one daughter, Katherine. Mr. and Mrs. Kaddatz and daughter have one of the finest residences in the city of Fergus Falls, located at 226 Summit avenue, west, and take a prominent part in the city's social activities.

CHRISTIAN JOHNSON.

Christian Johnson ranks with those citizens who have given untiring energy to the support and development of the agricultural sections of Minnesota. Devoted to the pursuit of agriculture as a business he has also found time to indulge in civic and industrial affairs in the community in which he lives and has been a valuable assistant to those interested in educational and political affairs. His work has been thorough and the results obtained by him in his chosen occupation have been lasting.

Christian Johnson is a descendant of an old and honored Norwegian family, and is part of that element which has played so important a part in American industrial life. He was born in Modum, near Christiania, Norway, on the 27th of February, 1850, and is the son of Johan and Maren (Gorgerson) Pederson, both natives of that country. The parents of Christian Johnson were married in Norway and in that country spent the greater part of their lives, where Johan Pederson was a miner for thirty-eight years. His death occurred in 1861 and his wife passed away eleven years later. Both parents were devout members of the Lutheran church. The couple reared a family of eight children, among whom are the following: Gunhild Maria, the wife of Axel Gulickson, who is living near New Auburn, Wisconsin; Peter, who is a farmer in Norway; Torger, who died on Sep-

tember 18, 1906, in Nidaros township, Otter Tail county; Edward, who is a farmer in Girard township, Otter Tail county; Karen Maria, the wife of William Gulickson, who died in Wisconsin; Christian, the subject of this sketch; Hans, a farmer, lives in Girard township with his brother, Edward; Thor, who is employed in a planing mill in Idaho.

When he was only twenty-one years old, Christian Johnson came to this country and settled in that section of the country which was given over for the most part to the pursuit of farming. For four years before his arrival in this country he worked as a miner in Norway, following the occupation of his father. In 1880 he came to America, where he worked in the lumber woods of northern Wisconsin. In that locality he was employed for four years and during that time bought eighty acres of land in section 17, Nidaros township, Otter Tail county. In the spring of 1885 he took up his permanent residence on the farm. His initial appearance in Otter Tail county was accompanied by the usual hardships incident to pioneer days, and from the difficulties encountered and conquered, Mr. Johnson showed such force of character as to deserve a place beside those who are considered the true foundations upon which the best agricultural life of Minnesota rests. The land on which he worked was raw prairie with no buildings. He began his life on the farm by building a small house and entering at once upon the task of breaking up the soil. The present farm serves as an example of what may be done with uncultivated land when the tiller of the soil has force of will, integrity and firmness of purpose. Large, modern farm buildings now occupy a prominent place on the land, the farm is well kept up and in an excellent state of cultivation. In 1893 Mr. Johnson bought eighty acres of land, which he added to his original purchase. He follows the occupation of general farming.

Mr. Johnson takes an active interest in civic affairs. He is a shareholder in the Farmers Co-operative Elevator Company, both of Clitherall and Vining, and also of the Telephone Company. In politics, he is an independent voter. He has served as treasurer of the school district and chairman of the board of supervisors of Nidaros township.

On the 14th of June, 1886, Christian Johnson was united in marriage to Lena Nelson, the daughter of Nils Reiersen, who died in Norway, the place of his nativity. To Mr. and Mrs. Johnson the following children have been born: John, who died at the age of twenty-six years; Dedrick, who lives in Minnesota; he has a homestead claim; Kala, who is superior to Minneapolis; Bennie, who lives at home; Arthur, who lives in Nidaros township, and Arthur, who lives at home with his parents. Mr. and Mrs. Johnson are ardent members of the Lutheran church and contribute generously to its support and welfare.

WILLIAM E. WESTOVER.

William E. Westover was born on October 19, 1891, and is the son of Albert M. and Augusta (Wegner) Westover. His paternal grandparents were Isaac and Mary Ann (Witts) Westover, natives of Canada and England, respectively. Their marriage was solemnized in Canada, and some years afterward they moved to Kansas, later removing to Austin, Minnesota, where they remained for a short time, and in 1875 changed their location to Otter Tail county. Upon their arrival in this county, they settled on one hundred and sixty acres of homestead land, gradually adding to the original tract until their farm consisted of more than four hundred acres, all adjoining on the south shore of Dead lake. Here they spent the remainder of their lives and are now sleeping side by side in Mt. Faith cemetery, in Fergus Falls. They were the parents of five children: Augusta, Della, Luella, Albert and Will.

The maternal grandparents of William E. Westover were Fred and Wilhelmina (Blank) Wegner, natives of Prussia, Germany, where they grew to maturity and remained for some years after their marriage. After their emigration to America they settled near Paynesville, Minnesota, where they purchased a farm on which they remained until their death. Fred Wegner died about 1909, and Wilhelmina (Blank) Wegner died about 1897. They were the parents of six children: August, Fred, Amelia, Augusta, Herman and Carl.

Augusta Wegner was born on October 15, 1866, in Germany. Albert M. Westover was born on July 12, 1856. They met and married in Missoula, Montana, and shortly after removed to Tacoma, Washington, where Albert M. Westover was employed by a railroad company in that city. He served in this capacity until 1892, and then returned to Otter Tail county, where he purchased eighty acres of land on the south shore of Dead lake, adjoining his father's farm, and here remained until his death. This property was uncleared and uncultivated, but in a few years was under cultivation, and their improvements consisted of a modern house and other necessary buildings. The original eighty acres was increased until his holdings amounted to two hundred acres. His death occurred on December 27, 1912. Fraternally, he was identified with the Eludes and with the Modern Woodmen of America. His marriage to Augusta Wegner was solemnized in 1886, and they became the parents of one child, William E. Westover.

William E. Westover received his education in the public schools and in the Park Region Lutheran College, also in the Northwestern College, the latter two being located in Fergus Falls. After completing his education he returned to the farm, assisting his father with the work until his death, and since that time has continued to manage and cultivate same. He is

making a specialty of breeding and raising dairy cattle and keeps a herd of thirty-five head. He is a stockholder of the Richville Creamery Company and the Amor Telephone Company, and it is safe to assume that many good things await his efforts to grasp and hold them, and that each effort will be conducted with the love of humanity as a guide to the natural trait of innate nobleness and honesty. The just reward of sincere friendships and high esteem, extended by those with whom he has associated must, of necessity, result to his credit. His enthusiasm for all that is progressive and of betterment to the community will be unselfishly given without thought of recompense, other than the good will of his fellowmen.

NELS NELSON.

A sketch of the life of Nels Nelson would be incomplete without reference to his father, John Nelson, whose rare qualities of prudence and industry have combined to make him one of the most esteemed citizens in the community in which he lives. John Nelson was born in the southern part of Norway, not far from Stavanger, in 1844, and is the son of Nels Salveson and Bertha Johnson, also natives of Norway. Nels Salveson, who was a farmer and a landowner, died in his native country in 1868 and his wife passed away in 1856. The couple reared a family of six children, as follow: Sarah (Mrs. Thomas Thompson), died in Norway; Kari also died in her native country, at the age of twenty years; Inga, the wife of Verman Sigredson, is buried in Norway, and Bertha, the wife of Lars Ottedal, resides in Norman county, Minnesota; Sam follows the occupation of farming near Lake Ida, in Becker county, Minnesota, and John is referred to in the next paragraph.

The public schools of Norway furnished the elementary educational advantages for John Nelson, who worked on a farm after completing the school course. The voyage to America, which was made in 1869, occupied one month on the ocean. For two years after his arrival in this country he resided in Vernon county, Wisconsin, the community to which he was first attracted. The trip to Otter Tail county was made in a covered wagon, drawn by a team of oxen, and the time required to traverse the distance, which seems short in this day of rapid travel, was five weeks. In Scambler township, Mr. Nelson took a homestead claim on one hundred and sixty acres of land, in section 4. His first years of labor in this community were eventful with all the incidents common in the life of a pioneer. He had to live through the disappointments of crop failures and the drawbacks of rough winter weather. Before retiring from active farm work, Mr. Nelson added one hundred and sixty additional acres to his original homestead. He has since divided part of the land among his children and at the present

time makes his home with his daughter, Mrs. Simon Olson, who lives on the home place. John and Johanna Sophia Nelson were the parents of the following children: Nels, the subject of this review; Kari, who died at the age of twenty-three; Sarah, who died at the age of twenty, and Betsey (Mrs. Simon Olson), who, with her husband, lives in Scambler township, on the homestead belonging to her father.

The birthplace of Nels Nelson is in Vernon county, Wisconsin, where he was born on June 2, 1870. He was brought to Minnesota when only one year old, and after reaching the age of seven attended the public schools of Scambler township. He went to farming soon after he had finished school and in 1890 came into possession of eighty acres of land, to which tract he added eighty acres more. Upon this farm Mr. Nelson put many modern improvements and continues to live on the place at the present time. In 1900 he bought one hundred and sixty acres of land in section 9, of Scambler township, and still continues to manage the addition. Mr. Nelson has never allowed himself to be wholly occupied to the point of narrowness with the duties of farm life. He has taken an active part in the industrial affairs around him and has, as a consequence, been honored with school offices. He has served as treasurer of the school district and as supervisor of the township in which he lives. He and his wife are members of the Norwegian Lutheran church.

To the marriage of Nels Nelson and Bertina Carlson, a native of Cormorant township, Becker county, the following children have been born: Selma Carlotte, Edwin, John, Neil, Tyler, Samuel, Julia, Walter and Birdie.

DICK BOLLAND.

Enterprise, sound business judgment and well-directed energy are some of the factors necessary to the making of a home in a new country and assisting in the development and the improvement of a community. It is to men of force and energy that the present generation owes much for the conditions to be found in many well-developed and improved communities. In numerous instances these improved conditions are traceable to the native-born German, who has come to this country and has made a pleasant home for himself and family.

Dick Bolland, a German by birth, was born in Hanover, Germany, on November 1, 1881. He was the son of J. D. Heinrich and Katherine (Clasen) Bolland, both of whom were natives of Hanover, Germany. John H. Bolland, grandfather of Dick, was a native of Hanover, Germany, where he followed farming. He never left his native Hanover, where he was an active member of the German Lutheran church.

J. D. H. Bolland was educated in Germany, where he grew to man-

hood and married. In 1897 he, with his wife and family, left their native country to establish a new home in a new land. They landed in New York and at once came on to Leaf Lake township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, where he purchased four hundred acres of land, and some horses, stock and machinery for seven thousand six hundred and fifty dollars. He added to this farm until he had, before his retirement, some five hundred and ten acres, about half of which was tillable. The farm was greatly improved under his management. The house was built already when he purchased the farm, but the barn and other buildings were erected under his supervision. Mr. Bolland was very active in politics in his native country. He was the father of the following children: Doris, Henry, Mary, Herman, Dick, Elsie, Katherine, Fritz and John, all of whom but the last two are married.

Dick Bolland was educated in Germany, in the common schools, and was but fifteen years of age when he arrived in America. Mr. Bolland was married on May 23, 1911, to Bettie Ohlrogge, who was also a native of Germany. Mr. and Mrs. Bolland are the parents of two children, Walter and Herbert.

Mr. Bolland purchased from his father two hundred and twenty-five acres of land and, with the aid of his brother, Fritz, they are farming this tract, as well as the balance of his father's original farm.

Mr. Bolland and his family are members of the German Lutheran church, and Mr. Bolland has held the responsible position of school clerk. The family enjoy the advantages of the telephone and rural delivery of mails.

BURTON H. MATHEWS.

Born in Blue Earth county, Minnesota, June 1, 1874, Burton H. Mathews, a prosperous farmer of Maine township, is the son of Washington and Ellen (Drake) Mathews, who were natives of Ohio and Wisconsin, respectively. Mr. Mathews' father was born in Ohio, March 10, 1832, and his mother in Wisconsin, February 4, 1844. Washington Mathews was a farmer all of his life. He farmed in Ohio and in Blue Earth county, Minnesota. Late in life he sold his farm and, for a time, operated a supply store in a small town. Washington Mathews came to Otter Tail county, Minnesota, in 1885, and purchased forty acres in Maine township, where he lived for many years. This farm was located in section 33, the same section in which his son's, Burton's, farm is now situated. While visiting in Canada with his daughter, Mrs. Bessie Bunse, Mr. Mathews died in September, 1909. His wife had died more than two years previously, June 17, 1907. They were the parents of four children, of whom one, Leroy, is

deceased. The living children are: Burton H., the subject of this sketch; Blanche and Bessie.

Burton H. Mathews was educated in the graded schools of Maine township after coming to Otter Tail county. Eleven years ago he purchased a farm of eighty acres, where he now lives, but the place is rented to Charles Turman. Mr. Mathews purchased this farm for six dollars an acre and, at the time, it was all wild land. Forty acres of the farm, however, has been cleared. Shortly after purchasing the farm, Mr. Mathews built a new house. The buildings are all new and well painted and reveal the thrift of the owner. Mr. Mathews is unmarried. He is well known throughout this section of the county and is well liked by all who know him.

JOSEPH BOEHL.

It is always a pleasure to note the successful career of the man who has won a definite goal in life, and especially is this true of one who has left his native home in the Old World and cast his lot in a new country and under vastly different conditions. Such men, for the most part, are men of sterling worth, filled with the desire to accomplish something for themselves and those dependent upon them. Such a man we find in the subject of this sketch.

Joseph Boehl, the son of Frederick and Charlotte (Zelle) Boehl, was born near Pealeberg, West Prignitz, Brandenburg, Germany, on September 25, 1841. His father, Frederick Boehl, was married to Charlotte Zelle, also a native of Germany. To this union were born two children, Frederick and Joseph, the subject of this sketch. Frederick Boehl was a farmer and a carpenter, which vocation he followed during his entire life. He never left his native country. After the death of Frederick Boehl, his widow married again.

Joseph Boehl was educated in Germany and grew to manhood there, being twenty-seven years of age when he landed in New York City. In early manhood he labored on the farm and assisted his father at carpenter's work. After reaching New York he proceeded to Danville, Illinois, where he remained for ten years farming and following the carpenter trade.

When Joseph Boehl came from Danville, Illinois, to Otter Tail county, about thirty-six years ago, he came in a covered wagon or prairie schooner. It took him forty days to go the distance. When Mr. Boehl came to Otter Tail county the country was but sparsely settled and there were two large Indian villages, one on the south side and one on the north side of the lake, occupied by Chippewa Indians.

Joseph Boehl was married on December 24, 1869, to Mary Shultz, a native of Germany, who died on October 15, 1906, at the age of sixty-nine

years. Mr. and Mrs. Boehl had no children of their own, but they adopted as their own, Henry Schauburger, who now goes by the name of Henry Boehl. The parents of Henry (Schauburger) Boehl were born in Hessen, Germany, and lived in State Line, Indiana, after coming to this country. Mrs. Henry Boehl was born near Paynesville, Stearns county, Minnesota. Her parents also came from Germany.

Henry (Schauburger) Boehl was married on March 26, 1896, to Emma Roehr, who was born on March 13, 1869. To this union have been born two children, Ervin and Adella. Henry Boehl and wife live on the farm of Joseph Boehl and look after the cultivation of the farm as well as the care of the home. Mixed farming, as well as the raising of much stock, is practiced here, and a success in both has resulted. The telephone and the rural delivery of mail are some of the conveniences these people enjoy. Henry Boehl has a Belle City threshing machine, operated by a gasoline engine, used principally for his own threshing. He is also the owner of a Regal automobile. The family are active members of the Evangelical church of Otter Tail.

PATRICK MOORE.

The late Patrick Moore, who was one of the most successful farmers and one of the best and most favorably known men of Maine township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, was born in Ireland on March 17, 1820, the son of Daniel and Hannah Moore, natives of Ireland. After some years as a farmer in his native country, Daniel Moore came to America about 1849, and located in the state of California, where he became a gold-miner, an occupation which he followed in that region for the remainder of his days.

Following his arrival in America, Patrick Moore went to California and worked in the gold-mines for many years. While engaged in this work he lost one of his eyes, as the result of a premature explosion. After some years, Mr. Moore retired from his activity as a gold-miner, and moved to the state of Wisconsin, where he engaged in general farming on one hundred acres of land which he purchased in that state. He made his home there for twenty-one years, and then, in 1876, he came to Otter Tail county, Minnesota, and bought one hundred and sixty acres of land in Maine township, and where he made his home until his death, on May 7, 1901.

While a resident of California, Patrick Moore was married to Nora Twohig, a native of Ireland, the daughter of Bartholomew Twohig and wife, who were born in Ireland and who came to America and became farmers in the state of Massachusetts, later moving to California. To the marriage of Patrick and Nora (Twohig) Moore were born the following

children: Bartholomew, Hannah, Nora, John, Mary, Catherine, James and Patrick, all of whom are living. Of the children of Patrick and Nora Moore two are married: Bartholomew, who married Mary Sullivan, and Hannah, who is the wife of Anton Britenbanch. Patrick Moore was a devout member of the Catholic church, both in his native country and while a citizen of America.

James Moore, who is a son of the late Patrick Moore, was born in 1873, and after his school days he became a farmer, an occupation in which he has since been successfully engaged. James Moore, with his brother, John, is now the owner of four hundred and forty acres of valuable land in Maine township, a place which the Moore brothers have well improved, and where they engage in general farming and in stock raising, making a specialty of Jersey Shorthorn cattle and Duroc-Jersey hogs. In addition to their general farming pursuits, the Moore brothers are operators of a dairy business. They have one of the best farms of the community, their farm adjoining the home place, which is now the property of their sister, Nora. The Moore brothers are unmarried, their sister being the housekeeper.

The memory of the late Patrick Moore is among the most honored of the entire community, he having been a man and citizen who was of considerable value to the township and county, in the many ways which he chose to be of service and of benefit. The children of the late Patrick Moore are among the highly respected and esteemed residents of the township and vicinity.

ANDREW N. ARVIDSON.

Andrew N. Arvidson, for twenty-eight years a resident of this township, during which time he has lived an industrious, honest life, has sought always to exemplify the qualities of mind and heart which go to make up the all-round man and American citizen. Early privations taught him many valuable lessons, for he was one of thirteen children. The self-reliance and industry learned in his childhood home became, however, the corner-stone of his character. The son of Nils Olson and Margaret (Jenson) Olson, of Sweden, he was born on May 21, 1870. His parents, who are mentioned in another sketch of this publication, are both dead.

Mr. Arvidson is practically a self-made man, for he was still a young man when he came to America and began working on a farm. This was in the year 1887. In 1896 he had accumulated enough means to purchase one hundred and sixty acres, which constitute the farm where he now lives. He set to work to cultivate the land, and to erect thereon the buildings necessary for farm work. He has since added forty acres.

On June 3, 1900, Andrew N. Arvidson was married to Anna Pehrson,

of this township. Mrs. Arvidson had come with her parents from Sweden when a child eight years of age. The children born to Mr. and Mrs. Arvidson are seven in number, namely: Alton, Simon, Mabel, Agda, Esther, Walfred and Luella.

Mr. Arvidson has served as road overseer. He and his wife are actively interested in the work of the Swedish Lutheran church, of which Mr. Arvidson has been trustee for the past three years. He was one of the organizers of the Rose Creamery Company, and is now one of its stockholders. At the time of its organization he was one of the men who carefully canvassed the entire county to obtain the names of men who desired to purchase stock. Mr. Arvidson is a man of sterling qualities and his insistence upon honesty in business matters and consideration for others in all intimate relationships has won for him many staunch friends and admirers.

THEODORE WALSTEAD.

Theodore Walstead is a well-known farmer in Otter Tail county. His farm is on the line of the two counties, Douglas and Otter Tail, Minnesota, the buildings being located in Douglas county. Theodore Walstead is one of four children born to the first union of Nels Walstead, being the second born of Nels and Julia Tollefson, Walstead, both natives of Norway. The birth of Theodore Walstead occurred on May 21, 1876, in Douglas county, Minnesota, on the home place, which he now owns. Nels Walstead emigrated to America in 1869, choosing Douglas county as the place best suited to his future plans, and two years after his arrival purchased one hundred and sixty acres of homestead land, which he cultivated until his death. Julia Tollefson emigrated to America in 1870, also locating in Douglas county, where her marriage was solemnized and where her death occurred. The names of the children born to this union are: John, Theodore, Matilda, who died in infancy, and Alfred. John is a pastor of Hanguis church, Morrisonville, Wisconsin; Alfred is a druggist in Larson, North Dakota. After the death of Julia (Tollefson) Walstead, Nels Walstead married (Lipet) Baklan, and to them was born one child, who died in infancy, namely, Emma.

The maternal grandparents of Theodore Walstead emigrated from their native land to the United States and located near the town of Evansville, Minnesota, where they purchased homestead of eighty acres, which he inherited for son, and died at an advanced age. They spent the later years of their lives with a daughter who lived in the vicinity of the same place. The paternal grandparents of Theodore Walstead were Jens Walstead and his wife, who remained in Norway all of their lives. Jens Walstead was a farmer and followed that vocation until his death.

Theodore Walstead is indebted to the schools of his immediate vicinity for the education he received. He was reared on the home farm and has remained there during the forty years of his life. He has added to the original farm until he now owns three hundred and forty acres, all adjoining. He has improved the place by adding a new barn and making the old house nearly new. In 1903 Theodore Walstead was united in marriage to Matilda Erickson, daughter of Martin Erickson. Theodore Walstead has served as township assessor for two years, was town clerk for seven years, and was elected county commissioner of the first district in Douglas county in 1912. In all of these offices Mr. Walstead has given satisfaction and is worthy of the high esteem in which he is held.

AMASA J. PIERCE.

Amasa J. Pierce was born near Wolcottville, Indiana, July 3, 1848, son of Stephen K. and Pamela Burr (Oldo) Pierce, who were natives of New York state. In 1837 they moved to a farm near Wolcottville, Indiana, where they lived until the father's death, on April 2, 1880. The mother later died in Kansas, where her eldest son was living. Sanford and Mary (King) Pierce, ancestors in line, were Yankees, and were descendants of John Pierce, who owned the "Mayflower." Stephen, father of Amasa J., was a first ensign in the militia of New York, when a young man. His sword is now in the possession of Amasa J. Pierce. Sanford Pierce was a farmer, and died in Noble county, Indiana, and both he and wife were buried in the Pierce family graveyard on the farm of Stephen K. Pierce, who bought the farm of two hundred acres from the government, and still owned one hundred and twenty acres of it at the time of his death.

Stephen K. Pierce was twice married, and by his first wife, Betsie Bellows, had one child, Ferndo Cortez; and by his second marriage the children were: Dewitt M., who enlisted in Company A, Twenty-first Regiment, Indiana Volunteer Infantry, at Lagrange, Indiana; Orrel M.; Amos J. and Amasa J., who were twins. Amos also was a soldier in the One Hundred and Thirty-second Regiment, Indiana Volunteer Infantry.

Amasa J. Pierce attended the common school and spent one winter at the seminary at Wolcottville, Indiana, and then went to Missouri, where he stayed for three years, working as a farm hand. He then came back to the home farm and worked three years. In 1876 he went to Chippewa township, Douglas county, Minnesota, and was there married in the following year, July 3, 1877, to Martha McKibben. She was born in Illinois, daughter of Henry J. McKibben, first cousin of William Jennings Bryan. Mr. McKibben was an early homesteader in Minnesota.

Mr. Pierce was the first to take a homestead in Butler township, Otter

Tail county, Minnesota, where he located on April 26, 1879. Others pre-empted before him, but only for speculative purposes. His homestead was one hundred and twenty acres in section 14, where he lived seven years. Then, for the ten years following, he was in North Dakota and western Minnesota, farming. He returned in June, 1896, to Butler township, bought forty acres, and lived on it a few years; and then homesteaded forty acres more, where he now lives, in Butler township, and which he has improved. He raises purebred Jersey cattle, Shropshire sheep, and is also a beekeeper. He was the first postmaster of Butler, and kept the office in his house in section 15; was also justice of the peace for many years; chairman of the township board, etc.

Mr. and Mrs. Anasa J. Pierce are the parents of the following children: Evangeline J., Leona May, deceased; Parmelia L., Etna M., Archibald J., Elsie May, Minnie V., Stella L. and Frank S. They are members of the Methodist Episcopal church. Mr. Pierce was formerly a Republican in politics, but is now a Prohibitionist. His first presidential vote was for Horace Greeley, and he made a trip from Grand Rapids, Michigan, to Lagrange, Indiana, to cast his vote.

It was in the spring of 1879 that Mr. Pierce came to Butler township, Otter Tail county, and he made the trip from Brandon, Minnesota, on foot, by way of Parkers Prairie and Bluffton, built a shack on his homestead, and in the autumn of the same year brought his family, they reaching the homestead on October 20, 1879. The place was near the corners called Butler.

JOHN SCHROEDER.

Practical industry is one of the most substantial foundations on which to achieve success. It is generally agreed that there is nothing to equal continued industry and applied energy, and it is to these elements that John Schroeder, farmer, owes his financial prosperity.

John Schroeder, Elizabeth, Otter Tail county, was born on September 30, 1877, in Elizabeth township, in the county where he now resides, and is a son of Bernhard and Katherine (Diedrich) Schroeder, his wife. His education was obtained at the public schools of Elizabeth, and after his marriage he located on the farm which he now owns, and which at that time was the property of his father. He rebuilt the house and put other valuable improvements on the place. His special attention has been given to stock raising, to which he feeds all the grain planted on the place. Mr. Schroeder's religious belief is with the Catholic church of Elizabeth, Minnesota.

Bernhard Schroeder, father of the subject of this sketch, was born on April 2, 1838, in Germany. Mr. Schroeder attended the public schools of

his native country, and came to America in 1868, landing in New York, and going direct to Chicago, where he was employed in a lumber yard for one year, coming to Elizabeth in 1869 and acquired one hundred and sixty acres in section 21, Otter Tail county, which he sold in 1889, buying another farm in Elizabeth township, section 33, and consisting of one hundred and sixty acres. At the expiration of six years he again sold out and bought two hundred acres in sections 32 and 33, which he still owns, and rents to his sons, since he has retired from an active agricultural life, and resides in the town of Elizabeth, having moved there in 1912. He owns two pieces of property at Elizabeth, on one of which he built a house, and on the other he follows gardening. Mr. Schroeder was united in marriage, October 30, 1876, with Katherine Diedrich, daughter of John and Eva Diedrich. She was born in Germany, and came with her parents to America. This union was blest with seven children, John, Joseph, George, Katherine, Anna, Matilda and Lizzie, all of whom are married and living in Otter Tail county and all members of the Catholic church. Mr. Schroeder is a member of St. Joseph's Society.

Anton Schroeder, the paternal grandfather, was a native of Germany, as was also his wife, Eva Reuter. They lived and died in their native country, where Mr. Schroeder was a day laborer. In religion, they were members of the Catholic church. By his first wife, he had but one child, Bernhard, father of John, and by his second wife, Mary, he had four children, Christopher, Mariana, Katherine and John.

John and Eva Diedrich, the maternal grandparents, were natives of Germany, and emigrated to America, locating first at Cold Springs, Minnesota, and a few years later moved to Otter Tail county and bought the farm now owned by our subject, consisting of one hundred and sixty acres. Mr. and Mrs. Diedrich were members of the Catholic church.

John Schroeder was united in marriage, June 27, 1906, with Mary Wedell, daughter of George and Theresa (Lill) Wedell. She was born, July 1, 1877, in Fergus Falls township. This union has been blest with three children: Theresa, born on October 27, 1907; Bernhard, September 26, 1909, and Lawrence, August 10, 1912. Like her husband, Mrs. Schroeder is also a member of the Catholic church. Their children all attend the public school at Elizabeth, Minnesota.

George Wedell, father of Mrs. John Schroeder, was born on the Atlantic, while his parents were en route from Germany to America. He was educated at Cold Springs, Minnesota, and was married there. Both Mr. and Mrs. Wedell attended the Catholic church. During the Black Hills War, Mr. Wedell hauled provisions for the soldiers. The children born to this union were eleven in number, Matilda, Bernhard, Mrs. Mary Schroe-

der, Robert, Clara, George, Theresa, Wensel, Anna, deceased; Agnes, Catherine. They also reared an adopted child, named Francis.

Mr. Schroeder is well and prominently known in the community in which he resides, and where he has long been a resident, and both Mr. and Mrs. Schroeder have a wide circle of sincere friends.

WILLIAM I. OMAN.

William I. Oman, well-known farmer, stockman and dairyman of Otto township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, was born in Calumet, Michigan, on April 2, 1882, the son of Isaac and Mary (Burkman) Oman, natives of Finland and Sweden, respectively. Isaac Oman was married in Norway and in the year 1865, with his family, he came to America and continued his business as a copper miner, in the mines of Calumet, Michigan. In 1887, Isaac Oman moved to Otter Tail county, Minnesota, and bought one hundred and sixty acres of land in Otto township, a place to which he added eighty acres at a later time, and where he now lives a retired life, with his son, William, who has acquired the land. Isaac and Mary Oman are the parents of the following children: Annie, Mary, William (deceased), Petra (deceased), John (deceased), Peter, Henry, Hilda, William I., of this sketch, and Jacob (deceased).

William I. Oman was educated in the public schols of Otter Tail county, after which he became a salesman, employed for some years in the stores of John Hanning, J. G. Mattala and J. H. Muckla, at New York Mills. Later he was engaged in the mercantile business with a cousin, at Bore, Minnesota, for some time. Following his business career, William I. Oman became a farmer on the home farm in Otto township, section 13, where he now lives and cultivates one hundred acres of land, together with extensive dealings in live stock and also engaging in the dairy business, keeping twenty good grade cows for this purpose.

William I. Oman has been one of the leaders in the political and official life of Otto township, taking an active part in all movements for the betterment of the community, for six years having served his township as assessor.

In 1913, William I. Oman was married to Mary Jacobson, the daughter of Isaac and Jacobina Jacobson, natives of Sweden, in Newton township. William I. Oman has one child, Sadie, age twelve years.

Jacob W. Jacobson was born in Sweden, on August 17, 1851, the son of Jacob and Katie Kimmunen, both of whom were natives of Sweden. After living some time in his native country, Jacob W. Jacobson came to America and located in the state of Michigan, in 1873. In 1882 he moved to Otter Tail county, Minnesota, where he bought one hundred and sixty acres of

land in section 30, Leaf Lake township. In 1896, Jacob W. Jacobson disposed of his place in Leaf Lake township and went to Newton township, where he bought one hundred and forty-six acres of land in sections 15 and 19, and now lives there engaged in general farming and stock raising.

In 1880, Jacob W. Jacobson was married to Katie Kahgole, a native of Finland, and to this marriage were born the following children, Alfred (deceased), Mary, Walter, Marium, Janie, Richard, Anna (deceased), Arthur, Yalmar, Phillip, Ernest (deceased) and Arnold (deceased).

Jacob W. Jacobson has taken an important part in the public life of his community, having served as a member of the school board for nine years, as assessor for twelve years and also as supervisor and township treasurer for some years.

JOHN K. WYATT.

Among the few native-born American citizens of the older generation now living in Otter Tail county, Minnesota, is John K. Wyatt, of Inman township, who was born near Waldo, Marion county, Ohio, July 7, 1852.

Mr. Wyatt is the son of Cyrus and Catherine (Bowers) Wyatt, who were natives of Marion county, Ohio, and Pennsylvania, respectively. Mr. Wyatt's parents came west to Iowa in 1856 and settled in Hardin county, at Iowa Falls. Later, they moved to Wright county, Iowa, and it was there that Cyrus Watt enlisted in Company H, Thirty-second Regiment, Iowa Volunteer Infantry. Cyrus Wyatt served about three years under General Thomas. After his discharge he returned to his home and died on July 2, 1865. His wife survived him many years, passing away in Iowa, January 30, 1905, at the age of eighty-two years.

John K. Wyatt was reared on a farm and educated in the public schools. When he was old enough, he took up farming in the Hawkeye state. Having purchased one hundred and twenty acres of land in Iowa, Mr. Wyatt improved the land and lived upon it until 1894, when he moved to Webster City. In 1901 he moved to Fergus Falls, Minnesota, where he lived for seven years. In 1905 Mr. Wyatt purchased three hundred and twenty acres of land in sections 24 and 30, of Inman township, and in 1908, three years later, moved to the farm. Mr. Wyatt has made many improvements upon this farm, especially in fences. He is a well-known and successful breeder of Shorthorn cattle, Shropshire sheep and Poland China hogs. Mr. Wyatt also makes a specialty of Plymouth Rock chickens and Bronze turkeys. While a resident of Fergus Falls, Minn. Wyatt was engaged some in the real estate business. He owns a number of good lots in Fergus Falls.

On November 15, 1877, John K. Wyatt was married to Elizabeth J. McGill, who was born in Clinton county, Pennsylvania, in 1859, and who

is the daughter of Samuel and Ellen (Van Lew) McGill. Mrs. Wyatt's father and mother were both natives of Pennsylvania, the latter being born on June 20, 1833, in Northumberland county. They moved to Iowa in 1855, but returned to Pennsylvania. Mrs. Wyatt's father served in the Seventh Pennsylvania Cavalry during the Civil War. He enlisted in September, 1864, and on his way home was taken ill and died on July 1, 1865, at Jeffersonville, Indiana, where he was buried. After his death, the mother and the remainder of the family moved to Jasper county, Iowa. The mother died on January 30, 1903.

Mr. and Mrs. Wyatt have been the parents of four children: Cyrus S., who is a graduate of the Webster City high school, was a soldier in the Spanish-American War; Percival is deceased; Ruth Eva was graduated from the Fergus Falls high school with the class of 1901, and Fern Ellen, who was graduated from the Fergus Falls high school in 1910.

Mr. Wyatt is identified with the Republican party and has always been active in party politics and is influential in the councils of his party in this county. Mr. and Mrs. Wyatt and family are members of the Presbyterian church of Fergus Falls.

CHARLES D. BAKER.

The progressive, wide-awake man of affairs determines the progress and prosperity of a community whether the boundaries of the community be large or small. His influence as a potential factor in the life of a county is difficult to estimate. No man living in Otter Tail county has done more for the agricultural development of the county than Charles D. Baker, a dealer in real estate, insurance and mortgage loans at Fergus Falls. From his father, who was a public-spirited citizen and business man, the son no doubt inherited a capacity for the infinite details of business, but Mr. Baker's acquisition by inheritance has been enlarged by careful and painstaking personal application. He had hardly finished his education in the East before he turned his eyes Westward and, heeding the words of Horace Greeley, he settled in this great state. Intimately identified with the industrial, commercial and agricultural history of Otter Tail county for nearly a half century, he is one of the best known men in the county and, as a simple statement of fact, it may be said that he is one of the most favorably known residents of the county.

Charles D. Baker was born on August 10, 1848, at Orrington, Maine, the son of Joseph D. and Emma G. (Baker) Baker, the former of whom was a merchant for many years and who, during the last thirty years of his life, was concerned in the settlement of estates and in the affairs of his home town of which he was a selectman. He died about 1895 in his eighty-



CHARLES D. BAKER.

third year. His wife had preceded him in death many years, her death having been caused by consumption. There were six children born to Mr. and Mrs. Joseph D. Baker, of whom two, Alonzo and Edward, died while serving their country in the Union army during the Civil War; Charles D., the subject of this sketch; Jefferson, who is a tailor at Bangor, Maine; Arthur, who is a banker at Deer Creek, and Helen, who died of consumption in 1885.

Until he was seventeen years old, Charles D. Baker lived at home with his parents and attended school. In 1868 he was graduated from the Bucksport Seminary and immediately thereafter came West on account of his health. He found employment as a bookkeeper in Moulton's nursery, where he worked for five years and then entered the government employ as a detective and as deputy United States marshal for the state of Minnesota, continuing in the latter form of service for seven years, at the end of which time he moved to Alexandria, where he remained for a short time. In 1881 he came to this county, locating at Bluffton, where he opened a general store. Two years later he moved to Deer Creek and engaged in the mercantile business. In 1885 he moved to Fergus Falls and, until 1898, was engaged in the loan business. Seventeen years ago he established a real-estate office in Fergus Falls and since that time has confined his attentions entirely to Otter Tail county real estate. Mr. Baker's office is one of the most complete real-estate offices in western Minnesota, being equipped with all the latest ideas in descriptive maps and photographs.

Mr. Baker has devoted considerable money, time and study to determine the possibilities of the soil of Otter Tail county. He has made diligent investigation and study of the produce for which this soil is best adapted and has furnished the farmers of Otter Tail county high grades of clover seed, alfalfa and corn, which in turn have brought forth abundant crops. Thousands of dollars have been expended by Mr. Baker in gathering statistics throughout Otter Tail county, and these facts, printed in pamphlet form, have been distributed among the farmers for their guidance. In other words, he has been a pioneer in determining the direction of agricultural development and productions in the county, and, as a pilot, is accorded today a foremost rank among the county's leading citizens. On his own initiative and as a private enterprise, he has done for Otter Tail county what the United States government is now doing in a larger way for the various states of the Union and for the country as a whole. The fundamental fact in Mr. Baker's propaganda is that he recognized early in his career as a real-estate dealer that agriculture is an exact science and that success in this vocation is determined by the possession of accurate, scientific and complete knowledge of soils and productions. In the strictest sense of the word, he is a

constructive citizen, one who has performed tangible service in behalf of the people of Otter Tail county.

Mr. Baker was married to Almeda Coulter, and to them have been born two children, Roy A. and Addie C. Roy A. Baker is his father's right-hand man in business; is a member of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks and is keenly interested in the civic, industrial and commercial progress of Fergus Falls. He married Lillian Morrell. Addie C. Baker married A. P. Stowell and lives in Huron, South Dakota.

Charles D. Baker is a member of the Masonic fraternity. When still a young man, in 1869, he became a member of Cataract Lodge No. 2, at St. Anthony and, after moving to Fergus Falls, demitted to Corner Stone Lodge No. 99, and has been a member of the commandery there for the past twenty years. He is also a member of the Knights of Pythias, the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks.

OTTO CHRISTIAN FOSS.

Owing to the conditions surrounding his early life, Otto Christian Foss, while still a youth, became versed in the secrets of agriculture, and to this day has given his entire attention to this field of activity. Mr. Foss, who was a native of Christiania, Norway, was born on October 4, 1861. His parents, Ole Anderson and Ellen Mathia Jorgenson, both of whom were born in Norway, came to America in 1872, and on June 22, of that year, arrived in Pelican township, this county. Here the father took up a homestead claim three-fourths of a mile west of the present home of his son, Otto. This tract of land consisted of one hundred acres, was improved by the owner and is now operated by his son, Anton J. Ole Anderson lived there until his death. The children born to Mr. and Mrs. Anderson were six in number, namely: Anton J., Milla Oliva Olson, Marie Emile Fisher, Anna Margaret Larson, Otto C. Foss, the subject of this sketch; Johanna Elisa Thorson.

The educational advantages of Otto C. Foss were extremely limited, his schooling consisting of six years in Norway schools and two months after he reached America. He was compelled to start to work while young, and by hard work has acquired two hundred acres of splendid farm land. However, he and his family together own four hundred and twenty acres. The farm upon which his home is located and other property have been extensively improved. He is known as a successful breeder of Guernsey cattle.

The marriage of Otto C. Foss and Bertha Seilstad took place in March 1891, the wife being a native of Norway. Mrs. Foss came to this

country with her parents when she was only two years old. They located in Wisconsin, but her father, Elevson, died in the Civil War. Mr. and Mrs. Foss are the parents of two children, Clara Emilia and Oscar Edward. They are members of the Grove Lake church.

The character of the gentleman whose life is here briefly presented is one which challenges admiration. Noted for his rugged honesty and fearless independence in matter of principle, the life of Otto C. Foss has been a well-rounded career.

JOHN ADOLPH PETERSON.

Of those men who have overcome obstacle and hindrance and, surviving discouragement and set-back, have risen to places of note in the locality and who have proved to be a success in their chosen line of work, the name of John Adolph Peterson, of this sketch, stands out conspicuously. Thrown upon his own resources at an early age and without substantial aid or encouragement, he has become one of the leading men and merchants of Otter Tail county and of the town of Dopelius, and has been given a place of note in the larger business affairs of the community, and a rank of honor in the public circles of his town and his township.

John Adolph Peterson was born in Black Hills, South Dakota, on November 16, 1885, the son of Isaac and Mary (Pary) Peterson. Isaac Peterson was born in Norway and Mary Peterson, his wife, was born in Finland, and each having come to America and settled with their parents in the same locality, they became acquainted, were married and then went to Hancock, Michigan, where Isaac Peterson worked in a mine for some time and then later moved to Black Hills, South Dakota, where the father lived until his death, in the year 1891. The mother, with the children, who were living in Otter Tail county, where they owned a farm of one hundred and sixty acres in Newton township, later was married to John P. Majava, she now living at New York Mills. To the marriage of Isaac and Mary Peterson were born the following children: Anna, who married Matthew Lind, and who died in the state of Michigan; William, who died at New York Mills; Ida, who married Emil Anderson and lives at Markham, St. Louis county; Arthur, who is a cattle buyer of New York Mills; John Adolph, the subject of this sketch; George, who is a railway brakeman of British Columbia; Lena, who married James Currie and lives at Minneapolis, and Matilda, who lives at home with her mother.

John Adolph Peterson was educated in a state school at Owatona, Minnesota, and from that institution was adopted by a family with whom he lived until the age of eighteen years, when he came to New York Mills and secured employment with the Fiske Brothers Company livery, where he

worked for three or four years and then went to the town of Dopelius, in Otter Tail county, Minnesota, where he was engaged as a butter-maker for the Dopelius Creamery Association, a position which he now holds. John Adolph Peterson has extended his business interests since coming to Dopelius until now he is the manager of a mercantile business, and in addition to this is one of the directors of the Dopelius Creamery Association, with which he has been connected for so many years.

On July 18, 1910, John Adolph Peterson was married to Anna Muckala, who was born in the state of Michigan, the daughter of John Henry Muckala and wife. To the marriage of John A. and Anna Peterson has been born a daughter, Erna Arbutus, whose birth occurred on June 8, 1913.

John Adolph Peterson and his wife are active members of the Lutheran church, a congregation in which they take an interested part. In politics, Mr. Peterson is an ardent Republican.

EDWARD JOHNSON.

Edward Johnson, a prosperous farmer of Girard township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, is a native of Norway, born there on November 12, 1853.

Mr. Johnson is a son of John Peterson and Mary (Torgenson) Peterson, both of whom were born in Norway, and spent their entire lives in that country. They were the parents of eight children, those living being as follows: Guniel Mary, Peter, Edward, Christ, Hans and Thomas. The deceased children are Torger and Karen.

Edward Johnson received his education in the public schools of his native land. In 1870 he came to America and settled at Baldwin, Wisconsin, near which place he worked on a farm for a time, afterward obtaining work on the railroad. For some years he spent the winters in the lumber camps. He was also one of the first men employed in the iron mines at Wisconsin. After working in the mines for five months, he came to Otter Tail county, Minnesota, in 1881, and purchased land from Charles F. Wright for one hundred and eighty acres. He sold this farm in 1892 and then purchased one hundred and sixty acres in Oak Valley township. He spent the winter of 1893-4 there, and thereafter made a trip to Norway, remaining four months. On his return from his trip to Norway in June, 1896, he took a position as manager of the Clitherall elevator, and remained with this firm for five years. Afterward Mr. Johnson lived in Clitherall for thirteen years, and during this time was engaged rather extensively in real estate speculation. In 1900 he made a second trip to Norway, remaining ten months. In 1907 he returned to the farm of one hundred and sixty acres in Girard township, which he had purchased in 1907. Mr. Johnson's brother,

Hans, who came from Norway to America in 1910, operates the farm, while the latter is living retired. Mr. Johnson's farm is well improved and highly productive.

Formerly Mr. Johnson was a member of the council at Clitherall, and was also supervisor of Nidaros township for a number of years. During a part of the time he was chairman of the township board. Mr. Johnson is a member of the Lutheran church, and is unmarried.

ANDREW ANDERSON.

Among those men of Swedish birth residing in Buse township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, Andrew Anderson, the subject of this sketch, is well known. Mr. Anderson was born in the southern portion of that country on June 11, 1871, son of John and Hannah (Isaacson) Anderson. Both parents were born in the same locality, where they were engaged in farming until the father came to America in 1891. This was two years after his son, Andrew, had crossed the water. John Anderson located in Illinois, and three years after he had emigrated, his family joined him and all lived there until 1904, when they came to Otter Tail county and rented a farm in Western township. There they lived until the death of the father, on July 13, 1911, at the age of sixty-six years. The mother died in the spring of 1914, at the age of sixty-seven years. Both were reared in the Lutheran faith and lived honest and useful lives.

Andrew Anderson is the eldest of a family of nine children, all of whom are now citizens of the United States. Hannah is the wife of Carl Olson and lives in Millelaes county, this state. Carl lives in Montana, where he is engaged in farming. Emma is the wife of John Larson, of Vikind, this state, and Louisa, who is Mrs. Lonie Hanson, resides in Martin county. John is a ranchman and farmer in Montana, and both August and Edward are farmers in Western township, of this county. Clara, the youngest of the family and the wife of Charles Hanson, also lives in the same township. Andrew was educated in the public schools of his native land and in 1889 came to America and settled in Illinois, where he remained until 1894, when he came to this state and located in Martin county. He purchased a farm of eighty acres and made it his home until 1902, when he became a citizen of this county. He purchased one hundred and sixty acres in Western township, where he lived until the spring of 1915, when he sold out and bought a tract of like size in Buse township, intending to make that his permanent home.

Mr. Anderson was married on November 2, 1901, to Cecelle Johnson, also born in Sweden, daughter of John Peterson, still living in his native

land. Mr. and Mrs. Anderson are the parents of four children, namely: Albert, Oscar, Arthur and Hilda, and both are members of the Swedish Lutheran church, to the support of which they give generously of their means. Mr. Anderson votes independently in politics, and inasmuch as he is interested in all that makes for the welfare of the community, he bids fair to become one of the highly esteemed citizens of his township.

GEORGE F. FREEMAN.

As the reader peruses a work like the present volume, one of the effects of which he becomes conscious is the inspirational value of certain types of biography. For this reason the man whose life forms the subject matter of this sketch is well worthy of consideration. George F. Freeman is a native of Clayton county, Iowa, having been born there on December 17, 1853, his parents being Ruben and Lydia (Denton) Freeman. Mr. Freeman has been a resident of this county for twenty-three years.

The parents of Mr. Freeman were born in Cayuga county, New York, where they grew up and were married. After their marriage they first moved to Ohio, later to Iowa, and in 1855 to Goodhue county, Minnesota, where they purchased land in 1853. In 1864 Mr. Freeman lost his wife and soon afterwards moved to Hastings, and thence to Minneapolis, where he became a bath-house keeper, a business which he continued until his death, which took place in 1885. At one time he served as justice of the peace. He and his wife were members of the Baptist church. The family of children that came to bless the home of Mr. and Mrs. Freeman was twelve in number, being: John D., Willie T., Mary A., Juliet, Hattie, Charlotte, George F., the subject of this biography; Ruben F., Alfred, and Charles, who died in infancy; Lyda and another infant, named Charles, who passed away.

George F. attended the district school of Roscoe, Minnesota, and later the high school at Pine Island. He early learned the cooper's trade, which he followed for seven or eight years. In Cannon Falls he then became proficient in the occupation of mill-wright and carpenter and worked in Cannon Falls. Hearing of the good farm lands in Dakota, he pre-empted a quarter section and filed on a tree claim, but left there in 1890 to again engage in his trade at Cannon Falls. He later added to his income by "breaking in horses" for a number of 100 Blings. Two years later he began the career of a farmer by purchasing eighty acres in section 1, west half of the southwest quarter of Woodside township. At the time of the purchase only eleven acres had been broken, and on these a log cabin had been built. As Mr. Freeman was still engaged in carpenter work, he was obliged to hire

men to clear his new-made purchase. He built a house, barn, granary, machine shed and chicken house. With this equipment he has since engaged in farming and has been for some years a breeder of Shropshire sheep and of standard-breed horses, as well as of full-blooded Jersey cattle.

In 1874 Mr. Freeman was united in marriage to Sarah E. Stone, a native of Olmstead county, Minnesota, daughter of A. K. Stone. The children born to this union are seven in number, namely: Luther A., a jeweler of Cloquet, Minnesota; Harold W., a real-estate dealer of Wadena, Minnesota; Dora, who died in infancy; Catharine Aletha, who married Clayton Church, and lives in Todd county; Jeannette, the wife of W. E. Watkins, and living at home; Jessie, who died in 1910, at the age of twenty; Marion C., who is employed by his brother in the real-estate business at Wadena.

Besides his occupational and agricultural interests, Mr. Freeman has taken an active part in a number of business enterprises. He has been the president of the Wrightstown Telephone Company and has been vice-president and director of the Farmers Co-operative Creamery at Bertha, as well as the present vice-president of the Farmers State Bank at Bertha and one of its organizers. Mr. Freeman has served two terms as county commissioner from the fourth district and has been township clerk and school treasurer. He is a member of the Odd Fellows Lodge and the Modern Woodmen of America. Both he and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal church. Their long residence in this county has given them a wide circle of friends, and their home has long been a center for interesting social gatherings. Mr. Freeman is a man of kindly disposition, charitable impulses, strict integrity and is public spirited to a marked degree.

LOUIS ANDERSON.

Prominent in the agricultural and commercial life of Otter Tail county, Minnesota, Louis Anderson deserves to rank as one of its leading citizens. Mr. Anderson was born in Denmark, October 29, 1872.

Educated in the schools of his native land Mr. Anderson came to America in 1891, and settled on a farm in Dakota, where he was engaged in farming for twelve years. At that time he rented some seven hundred acres of land. In 1903 he came to Otter Tail county, Minnesota, where he purchased a farm of ninety-six acres in Sverdrup township, and here he is engaged in general farming and stock raising. Mr. Anderson is a self-made man. His farm is well improved and is highly productive. The buildings are all comfortable and are kept in a very fine state of repair. During the past ten years Mr. Anderson has been connected with the Park

Region Mutual Telephone Company. He was a director in this company for nine years, and in 1914 was elected president of the company.

While living in Dakota, Louis Anderson was married to Christina Anderson, who is also a native of Denmark, and who came to Dakota in 1893 with her parents, Andrew and Mary Johansen. Mrs. Anderson's father died in Dakota in 1913, while her mother is still living in that state. Louis Anderson and wife are the parents of seven children: Thea, Agnes, Ella, Francis, Lila, Alfreda and Levi.

Mr. Anderson has been repeatedly honored by the people of his township with important local offices. He served altogether seven years as supervisor in his township, and has also served as a member of the school board for many years. Nominally, Mr. Anderson is identified with the Republican party, and is prominent in the councils of his party in Sverdrup township. He is a highly respected farmer, a good citizen and a good man, who has honored the community where he resides by his many good works.

HANS P. OLSON.

Born at Sellan, Denmark, September 3, 1849, Hans P. Olson is a son of Ole and Kisten Hansen, both of whom were natives of Denmark, and who grew to maturity in that country, and were there married. Ole Hansen died in his native land at the age of fifty-four years, and after his death his widow came to America in 1871, and spent her last days in this country. After coming to the United States she was married to Nils Tygersen.

Ole Hansen and wife were the parents of seven children, of whom Hans P. Olson was the eldest. The other children were Maria, Ingebor, Stena, Lars, Karen and Olena. Of these children Hans P. and Stena came to America together in 1869. They settled first at Winona, Minnesota, and lived there for a couple of years, after which H. P. Olson returned to Denmark to bring back the remainder of the family. Upon their return to America they were accompanied by their mother and their two brothers and sisters. The family settled in Otter Tail county, where they purchased one hundred and sixty acres of school land in section 16, of Tordenskjold township. They put up a rude log house, where the family lived for some years, but this has long since been replaced with a frame house. They have also had a frame barn, and many other improvements on the place, and in the meantime Mr. Olson has added forty acres to the original farm. He is a successful stock raiser, and has made a specialty of raising Holstein cattle.

After 1871 H. P. Olson was married to Christine Jensen, a native of Denmark, who came to America when twenty-one years of age. Mrs. Olson

died in 1892, and her husband has never remarried. Hans P. Olson and wife were the parents of nine children, as follow: Olaf, a farmer living in Canada; Chris, also a farmer in Canada; Peter, who died at the age of twenty-two; Alice, who died in infancy; Theodore, a farmer living in North Dakota; Hans, who lives at home with his father, is the owner of a quarter section of land in North Dakota; Emil, living in Idaho; Sande, who died at the age of eleven years; Sande, the second, is a farmer in Dane Prairie township.

Mrs. Olson, during her life, was a member of the Free Lutheran church, the church with which her husband is now identified. Mr. Olson has always been independent in politics.

TORGER TOLLEFSON.

One of the well-known farmers of Folden township and of Otter Tail county is Torgjer Tollefson, who in agricultural life and in business activity, has demonstrated his ability and a citizen who in those things which make up the desirable community resident, is not lacking.

Torgjer Tollefson was born in Saetersdalen, Norway, on April 26, 1860, the son of Tollef Tollefson and Borghild Torgenson, both of whom were born in the same district, the father on February 17, 1817, and the mother on May 8, 1824. Tollef Tollefson and Borghild Torgenson grew to maturity and were married in their native country, where Tollef Tollefson was engaged in general work, and then, in 1872, with two children, he and his wife came to America and went to Fillmore county, Minnesota, where they lived for three years and then in 1875 they came to Otter Tail county and settled in Eagle Lake township, where they lived for five years. In 1880 Tollef Tollefson homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of land in section 30, of Folden township, land which was as yet uncleared of the timber and brush. Tollef Tollefson, with the aid of his son, Torgjer, on taking possession of his homestead, proceeded to clear the land and to build a "cellar," a work which was not finished by the elder Tollefson, as he was overtaken by death, shortly following the beginning of this task. Borghild (Torgerson) Tollefson continued to live on the home place until she died, at the age of eighty-four years, in 1908. To Tollef and Borghild (Torgenson) Tollefson were born the following children: Tollef, who died in Norway, at the age of three years; Torgjer, the subject of this sketch; and Thora, who married Morten Peterson, and lives in Folden township.

After his education in Norway, Torgjer Tollefson, at the age of twelve years, came with his parents to America, and when twenty years of age was called on to fill the place of his father, who died at that time on the home

place, in Otter Tail county. Torger Tollefson completed the unfinished work of digging a cedar begun by his father, and cleared the land, erecting thereon such buildings as were necessary for comfort, and in 1886, he constructed a substantial log house, one which is now in use as a farm out-building. His efforts have resulted in the clearing of eighty-five acres of land, on which Mr. Tollefson is now engaged successfully as a general farmer. In 1913 Torger Tollefson replaced his early-built log house with a modern home, erected nearby, in which he now lives.

Torger Tollefson, in 1886, was married to Lisa Hanson, who was born in Norway, the daughter of Hans Larson and wife, who lived and died in their native land, the daughter having come to America when she was twenty-five years of age. Torger and Lisa Tollefson are the parents of the following children: Tom, who is a farm manager in Eagle Lake township; Mary, who is employed at an asylum of Fergus Falls; Helmer, who lives at home; Bernhard, Conrad, Thea, Boletta, Otto and Oscar.

Torger Tollefson and his wife are leading members of the United Norwegian Lutheran church, where Mr. Tollefson is now one of the choir singers. In politics, Torger Tollefson is an ardent Republican. Among the residents of Otter Tail county, Torger Tollefson and his wife are highly respected and are held in high esteem as workers for those things having for their object the advancement of the community interests.

ALFRED EKLUND.

Of the well-known and successful farmers of Newton township and of Otter Tail county, the name of Alfred Eklund is one which stands for good citizenship and for a type of manhood which in the history of the locality, has done great things for the progress and advancement of the general interest. Industrious, thoughtful and with a resourcefulness characteristic of the people of Sweden, his native country, he has been a fair example of the rewards of honest endeavor and of unselfish pursuits.

Alfred Eklund was born in Stockholm, Sweden, on January 22, 1868, the son of Carl and Catherine (Anderson) Eklund, who were born in Sweden and there married, and where Carl Eklund and his wife now live, the former being ninety years of age and the latter about ten years younger, and both active members of the Lutheran church. Carl and Catherine Eklund are the parents of the following children: Lena, who married John Carlson, and who died at Chicago, Illinois; Johanna, who was married to Edward Larson, who died at Chicago; he was married to John Anderson, and lives at St. Louis, Missouri; August Peter, who married John Olson, and lives at Elmhurst, Illinois; John, a member, of Humboldt Park, Chicago, Illi-

nois; Anna, who lives in Sweden; Alfred, the subject of this sketch; Natalius, a farmer of the state of Illinois; Carl Andrew, who is a farmer in Sweden; Huldah (deceased); Ida, who married John Selander, and lives in Newton township; Frank, a farmer, who lives near Buffalo, North Dakota, and two daughters, who died in infancy.

Alfred Eklund was educated in the public schools of Sweden, after which he worked on his father's farm until twenty years of age and then came to America and learned the carpenter trade, which he followed at the city of Chicago for sixteen years, and in 1903 Alfred Eklund came to Otter Tail county and bought eighty acres of land in section 2, of Newton township, land which was cleared, but a place on which there were few improvements. Alfred Eklund, on taking possession of his farm, proceeded to improve the place with new buildings and other necessary equipment, until he now has one of the best and most convenient farms of the locality. On his land Mr. Eklund is now engaged in general farming, a line of work in which he has been peculiarly successful, producing excellent crops and feeding for market large numbers of live stock.

In 1892 Alfred Eklund was married to Matilda Carlson, a native of Sweden. To this marriage were born two children, Hilga and Arthur.

In political affiliation, Alfred Eklund is of the Independent party, and has served well his community in those things which have called for public support. Mr. Eklund and his wife are highly respected people of Newton township, in which locality they have a host of friends.

MILTON R. GREENWOOD.

Among those who stand first in the life of the locality in which they are residents, is Milton R. Greenwood, lumberman and farmer, also business man, of the town of Richville and of the surrounding county of Otter Tail, Minnesota. He was born on January 16, 1876, in Wells county, Indiana, and is the son of Thomas and Sophrona (McGeath) Greenwood, both natives of Wells county, Indiana.

The maternal grandparents of Milton R. Greenwood were Thomas R. and Rebecca McGeath, both natives of New York state and among the first settlers of Wells county, Indiana. Thomas R. McGeath was an ordained minister of the Methodist Episcopal church and a pioneer in his vocation. His professional services were in behalf of the residents of the locality in which he lived and his death was looked upon as a loss to the community.

Thomas Greenwood, father of Milton R. Greenwood, was born on July 5, 1848, in Wells county, Indiana, and there grew to manhood and received his education. After reaching maturity he engaged in the lumber, real

estate and agricultural interests of the town and county and in 1882 removed to Rice county, Minnesota, where he engaged in the lumber business until 1900. He then came to Otter Tail county, and became the purchaser and owner of seven hundred and fifteen acres of timber land, adding four hundred more in a few years later. This land was located in Rush Lake township, Otter Tail county, and after the timber had all been sold, the land was subdivided into smaller farms and sold. For eighteen months he resided in the town of Perham, but following the incorporation of the town of Richville, he removed to that place for the purpose of being in closer touch with his realty interests. Subsequent to his arrival in Richville, Minnesota, forty acres of Tholke's addition was sub-divided into lots and he sold it in that way. The later years of his life were spent partly in Minnesota, but the winters being too severe, were spent in Locksley, Alabama, near Mobile. His death occurred in Richville on December 25, 1914. Sophrona (McGeath) Greenwood, his wife, is now living in Richville. Thomas Greenwood was a Republican and very active in the life of the town and was, at one time, a member of the town council of Foreston. He was also a soldier and served his country during the Civil War, having enlisted in Company E, Seventy-fifth Indiana Volunteer Infantry, and engaged in the battles at Chattanooga and Chickamauga and was also with General Sherman on his march to the sea. His wife is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church. To them were born seven children: John, William, Alonzo, Milton R., Oscar, Inez and Minnie. John is an employee of the Standard Oil Company and resides in Mankato, Minnesota; William died while in Rice county, Minnesota; Alonzo also died in that county; Oscar is a farmer and lives in Richville; Inez became the wife of George Schroeder and they live in Locksley, Alabama, and Minnie died in infancy.

Milton R. Greenwood was reared on his father's farm and received his education in the public schools of Rice county, Minnesota. Subsequent to his graduation, he became engaged with his father in the work on the home place, as well as in the capacity of lumberman on his father's property. In 1900 he removed to Otter Tail county, with his father, and purchased land in connection with his father, now owning one hundred and seventy acres near Richville and one hundred and sixtiy acres in Beltrami county, near Bemidji. His commercial interests have consisted in selling the timber from his land, thereafter disposing of the land, and he has also operated a saw mill in connection. Fraternally, he is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America and of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, in which lodges he is held in high esteem. Politically, he is a faithful follower of the Republican party.

On November 28, 1900, Milton R. Greenwood was united in marriage

to Catherine Shields, daughter of Patrick Shields, an old settler of Shieldsville, Minnesota, and her birth occurred in Wisconsin. Shieldsville, Minnesota, was named for the Shield's family, of whom there are a large number in and around that town. Patrick Shields now resides in St. Joe, Minnesota. Three children have been born of the union of Milton R. Greenwood and Catherine Shields, namely: Delbert, Joseph and Mamie. Mr. and Mrs. Greenwood and family are justly esteemed in the community in which they reside.

AMOS H. WETMUR.

Amos H. Wetmur, a farmer of Candor township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, has been one of the earnest workers for the development of all things educational and for the advancement of community interests. He has given time and service and in return has received the approbation of his fellow citizens. He is a native of Orange county, New York, and was born on May 5, 1852. He is one of ten children born to the union of Sylvanus and Sarah Jane (McCarter) Wetmur, who were natives of Pennsylvania and Newark, New Jersey, respectively.

The paternal and maternal grandfathers of Amos H. Wetmur were both soldiers of the American Revolutionary War and were of English and Scottish descent. The father of Amos H. Wetmur was born in Pennsylvania on May 3, 1812, and died on November 6, 1899, aged eighty-six years, six months and three days. The mother of the subject of this sketch was born at Newark, New Jersey, January 4, 1819, and died on June 6, 1893, being seventy-four years, five months and two days old. Both deaths occurred at Morgan Hill, California, and they are both buried at Gilroy, California.

Sylvanus Wetmur and Sarah Jane McCarter were married on November 30, 1841. Sylvanus Wetmur's early life was spent in the woods during winter months, and in spring was engaged in driving logs down the Susquehanna river. In 1856 he removed to Wisconsin, taking his wife and six children with him. The family located near Rippon, where they remained until 1860. During their residence in that place, Sylvanus Wetmur was engaged as a farm-hand, which vocation he continued after his removal to Oshkosh, Wisconsin, until 1866. In that year he decided to make Minnesota the home and the journey was made with two yoke of oxen and a covered wagon. This removal was the result of a visit made to the home in Wisconsin, by an uncle, George Wetmur, who persuaded Sylvanus Wetmur to make the change. After reaching Minnesota, they located at Mapleton, Blue Earth county, where the father became employed as a farm hand for

two years. He then moved to Steel county, Minnesota, and purchased eighty acres of land, near Havana and Owatonna, and lived there for many years, moving, in 1890, to California.

The names of their ten children are as follow: Josephine Augusta was born on July 6, 1843; died in early infancy. Esther Ann (deceased) was the wife of Daniel Willis and lived in Mapleton, Minnesota. Mary Delia became the wife of George Stephens, and her death occurred at Mapleton, Minnesota, October 16, 1876. Phebe Ellen, born on February 5, 1851, married William Marshall in 1867; issue, one boy, William Marshall, Jr.; then divorced and became the wife of Joseph Carpenter, and her death occurred on April 30, 1914, in Seattle, Washington. Amos H. Wetmur was born on May 5, 1852. Charley L. Wetmur was born on June 29, 1853, is a well driller, thresher and farmer, and lives at Minot, North Dakota. Jane Elizabeth was born on April 21, 1857, and became the second wife of George Stephens; they now reside in San Jose, California. George M. Wetmur was born on March 20, 1855, and was last heard of in Montana in 1878. Willard S. Wetmur was born on October 13, 1860, and is working at the barber trade in Gilroy, California. Orin Eugene Wetmur was born on October 13, 1861, and died at Morgan Hill, December 4, 1903, and is buried with father, mother and sister (Ellen) at Gilroy, California.

George Wetmur, uncle of Amos H. Wetmur, was a prominent man in Minnesota in the early days, and built the first grist-mill at Chalfield, Minnesota. He was also interested in the iron mines of the state in its early history.

Amos H. Wetmur received his education in the public schools of Blue Earth and Steele counties, Minnesota, and was reared on the home farm. His first independent business venture was the purchase of forty acres of land, located near Rice Lake, Steele county, in 1875, for which he paid four hundred dollars and which he bought from the Lamberton Land Company, of Winona, Minnesota. This farm was cleared and improved and soon after he removed to Cass county, North Dakota, where he homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres. After improving the one hundred and sixty acres he added three hundred and twenty acres more, improved this, and then sold out in the spring of 1888, for ten thousand dollars. Previous to this sale he had taken in trade one hundred and sixty acres, located in Hobart township; this was improved and a residence was effected on this land in the fall of 1888. In 1904, after making many improvements, the place was sold and Amos H. Wetmur moved to the town of Vergas, Minnesota, where he purchased forty acres of land within the town corporation. At the time of purchase the land was uncleared and unimproved, but it was cleared and put

under cultivation and in 1915 eighteen acres, which was sown to oats and barley, yielded more than one thousand bushels.

In 1880 Amos H. Wetmur was united in marriage to Carrie May Hoyle, and to them have been born eight children, whose names follow: Ervin was born on November 23, 1881, is an engineer on the Great Northern railroad, and lives in Minot, North Dakota; Florence was born on February 24, 1883, and married Albert Abraham, and they live in Elkhart, Indiana; Bertha, born on June 10, 1885, became the wife of William Long, and they live in Echo, Oregon. Minnie was born on May 6, 1887, is the wife of Glen Crawford, and their home is in Ontario, Canada. Myrtle was born on June 23, 1888, and is the wife of Charles Hauser, and their home is in Fargo, North Dakota. Ernest was born on June 25, 1890, and was married on January 4, 1916, to Borga Burman, and is living at home. Ray was born on December 10, 1895, and is living at home; Pearl was born on October 29, 1897, and is employed as an operator by the local telephone company.

Carrie May (Hoyle) Wetmur was born on March 13, 1867, the daughter of Thadous Hoyle, a native of Logansport, Indiana. Amos H. Wetmur is affiliated with the Brotherhood of American Yeomen and is a Socialist in his political views. He has served the public as a justice of the peace for many years, both in Candor and Hobart townships. He has served as school clerk in Hobart for many years, also clerk in the village of Vergas for three years, and was one of the organizers of the village of Vergas.

HENRY HENSCH.

Henry Hensch, who was born in Germany on January 4, 1874, the son of Nicholas and Mary (Beckmann) Hensch, both of whom are now residents of Germany, where Nicholas Hensch is a farmer.

Henry Hensch was educated in the schools of Germany, and for a short time attended school in the state of Iowa, where he went after reaching America, in the year 1889. Following his settlement in Lyons county, Iowa, Henry Hensch was employed generally at farm work for eleven years and then he came to Otter Tail county, Minnesota, and bought a farm of one hundred and sixty acres of land in Western township, a place on which he put many improvements. At a later date this enterprising farmer purchased one hundred and sixty acres, south of his original farm, all of which land is now well improved and in a good state of cultivation.

During the year 1900 Henry Hensch was married to Johanna Kohnke, who was born in Germany, the daughter of John and Katherine (Blohm) Kohnke, who are natives of Germany, where they now live. To the mar-

age of Henry and Johanna Hensch have been born four children, Albert, Frida, Henry, Jr., and Louise.

Henry Hensch and his family attend the German Lutheran church, a congregation in which Mr. Hensch is one of the best known, and with his wife, is among the most highly respected communicants.

In the public life of Otter Tail county and Western township, Henry Hensch has taken no especial part, but has preferred to serve as a private citizen and to do his duty to the community as it is presented.

EDWARD T. BARNARD.

Successful as a merchant in Fergus Falls and a prosperous and successful furniture dealer and undertaker, Edward T. Barnard is a native of Minneapolis, this state, the son of Thomas G. and Eliza (Hayes) Barnard.

Mr. Barnard's father was born on Prince Edward Island and located in Boston, Massachusetts, about 1848. It was in Boston that he worked in a cabinet shop, as it was called in those days—what we now call a furniture store. At that time in the cabinet shop, or store, most all of the furniture was made, and the product was beautiful and substantial, the furniture made in those days, with its antique design, now being bought and sold at almost fabulous prices. In 1857 Thomas G. Barnard came West and engaged in the manufacture of furniture in a Minneapolis factory, which is still in operation and which is known as the Barnard-Cope Manufacturing Company. Mr. Barnard is now retired from active life and lives at Los Angeles, California.

Edward T. Barnard, who conducts the commodious furniture store on East Lincoln avenue, where he has a large and well-selected assortment of furniture and an admirably arranged stock, betrays, in every nook and corner of his store, his exquisite taste and his expert knowledge of the business.

Mr. Barnard acquired his early education in Minneapolis and later engaged in the printing business. On April 21, 1880, he went to Fergus Falls and, after arriving in that city, was employed by the *Journal*, where he worked for twenty-one years. At the end of that period, he embarked in the furniture and undertaker business and in that business he is still engaged.

Mr. Barnard's wife, before her marriage, was Lillian Nichols, the daughter of George F. Nichols, who was the third postmaster of Fergus Falls. Mr. and Mrs. Barnard have four children, Helen, Arthur, Neal and Lucille.

Edward T. Barnard is a member of Grand Lodge No. 100 of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, and also is a member of the Knights of Pythias, the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Modern Wood-



EDWARD T. BARNARD

men of America. Few undertakers in the state are better known than he, a fact that was attested by his election in 1914 to the important position of president of the Minnesota Funeral Directors Association.

HENRY H. BERGE.

Among the farmers and stock raisers of St. Olaf township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, as well as among the general population of the community, Henry H. Berge is known as a man who has made a success of his life, not only in agricultural pursuits, but as a man, and as a forceful and useful citizen of the township. When a boy he was denied home influence and parental care, and was therefore dependent largely upon his own resources and yet regardless of this handicap, by rising to a position of note and prominence in the community, he has proved to all his quality and his ability to surmount difficulty and to be of use in whatever situation or circumstance. It is these qualities in Henry H. Berge which have made him one of the men of leadership and influence in the township and county.

Henry H. Berge was born in St. Olaf township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, on March 29, 1869, the son of Halvor Berge and Ragnel Hernes, both of whom were natives of Norway, in which country they lived, where Halvor Berge was a farmer until the year 1863, when they came to America and located in Dane county, Wisconsin, living there for two years, after which time they moved to Mower county, Minnesota, living there for about two years, and then came to Otter Tail county, Minnesota, where Halvor Berge homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of land in St. Olaf township, a place where he, with his family, made his home and after some time having overcome many hardships and privations, due to the distance from the railway, he "proved up" his land and lived his last days in comparative comfort. Halvor Berge, well-known pioneer citizen of Otter Tail county, Minnesota, died in the year 1877, his wife having died in the year 1873; on his death four young children, Ingeborg, Magne, Nellie and Henry, being left alone and in the care of an uncle, Ole Hernes.

Henry H. Berge, while living with his uncle, was educated in the public schools of Otter Tail county, Minnesota, after which, having reached the age of sixteen years, he worked as a farm helper for some time. In the year 1886 he gained possession of the home farm, to which he added some land by purchase and has since engaged in general farming and stock raising.

During the year 1900 Henry H. Berge was married to Helga Knudson, who was born on December 30, 1878, in Norway, and to this marriage has been born two children, Harvey, who is fourteen years of age, and Roy, who

is eight years of age. Henry H. Berge and his family are loyal members of the Norwegian Lutheran church. In politics, Mr. Berge is an ardent Republican.

JOHN WILLIAM SWANSON.

John William Swanson, prominent farmer, of Star Lake township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, was born in Sweden, December 15, 1876, the son of Sven M. and Sophia Johanson, both of whom were natives of Sweden, where Sven M. is now living and where his wife, Sophia, died in 1890. Sven M. and Sophia Johanson were the parents of seven children. John William, Emma, Carl, Hulda, Gustav, Clara and Eldor.

John William Swanson received his education in the public schools of Sweden, after which he came, in 1898, to America and located in Clay county, Minnesota, where he lived with an uncle, John W. Nelson, for some time and then came to Star Lake township and bought, in partnership with an uncle, Frank Nelson, more than two hundred acres of land in section 13. Of this land Mr. Swanson now owns sixty-five acres. John William Swanson has greatly improved his farm with substantial buildings and has brought his land to a high state of cultivation. He now engages successfully in general agricultural pursuits.

During the year 1906 John William Swanson was married to Esther Victoria Henstrand, who was born in the state of South Dakota, in 1885, the daughter of Sven Henstrand and wife, natives of Sweden, who came to America and settled in Minnesota and later went to North Dakota, where they spent the remainder of their days. To the marriage of John William and Esther Swanson have been born four children, Arvid, Edwin, Irving and Alice. Mr. Swanson and his family are members of the Swedish Lutheran church.

JOHN W. NELSON.

Among the well-known and successful farmers of Star Lake township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, is John W. Nelson, who was born in Sweden, December 14, 1860, the son of Israel and Christine Nelson, both of whom were natives of Sweden, in which country they lived their entire life. Israel and Christine Nelson were the parents of eight children: Peter, who cultivated the home farm in Sweden; Lena, who is deceased; Mattilda, deceased; Frank, who lives in Star Lake township; Sophia, who is deceased; Emma, a resident of Sweden; John W., the subject of this sketch, and Carl, who lives at Alhambra, Minnesota.

John W. Nelson was educated in the public schools of Sweden. In June, 1880, he came to America and located in Polk county, Wisconsin, where he lived one year and then, after one summer at St. Paul, Minnesota, and one winter in the woods of Wisconsin, John W. Nelson came to Moorhead, Clay county, where he homesteaded, in 1882, one hundred and sixty acres of land, a place which Mr. Nelson improved extensively and a farm which Mr. Nelson now leases out. In June, 1901, John W. Nelson came to Star Lake township and bought one hundred and forty-five acres of land in section 22, where he now lives and engages in general agricultural pursuits.

During the year 1883 John W. Nelson was married, at Moorhead, Minnesota, to Elvina Bjordahl, who was born in Norway on April 14, 1865, the daughter of Ole and Elsie Bjordahl, natives of Norway, who moved to Huston county, Minnesota, where they lived until 1904, and then came to Star Lake township, this county, where Ole Bjordahl died in 1906, and where his widow, Elsie, now lives, at the age of eighty-eight years. To the marriage of John W. and Elvina Nelson have been born four children, William Eldor, Clara, George Arthur and Alma.

BENJAMIN G. EMERY.

Benjamin G. Emery, well-known farmer and prominent citizen of Maplewood township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, was born in Marion, Marion county, Ohio, on June 16, 1852, the son of Jonah C. and Lyda (Kelley) Emery, the former a native of Pennsylvania, where he was born in 1820, and the latter born in the same state. Jonah C. and Lyda Emery went to the state of Ohio in the early forties and located in Marion, where he followed his business as a contractor and builder, until his death in 1867. Jonah C. and Lyda Emery were the parents of five children, Ida, Benjamin G., Jesse and Ella (deceased), and Alice.

Benjamin G. Emery received his education in the public schools of Marion, Ohio, after which he went to Porter county, Indiana, where he married and then moved to Stevensville, Michigan, and later to Oshkosh, Wisconsin, and then he went to the city of Minneapolis, Minnesota, for four years' residence. In 1880 Benjamin G. Emery came to Otter Tail county and homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of land in Maplewood township, a place which he has improved with good buildings and a farm on which he engages in general agricultural pursuits.

On April 23, 1871, Benjamin G. Emery was married, in Porter county, Indiana, to Harriet McAninch, who was born in Indiana on November 1, 1854, the daughter of John McAninch and wife, who moved to Porter

county from Wyandot county, Ohio, during the time of the Civil War. To the marriage of Benjamin G. and Harriet Emery have been born the following children: Hughie, Ella, Thomas, Archie A., Alfred P. and Mae, who are living; and Alice C., Frank E. and Edith M., who are deceased.

For twenty-two years Benjamin G. Emery has served his community as township clerk and for eighteen years he has filled the office as clerk of the school board. During a term of six years Mr. Emery occupied the office of justice of the peace and for practically all of his days in Maplewood township, he has been active in some manner which has resulted to the profit and advancement of the community life.

WILLIAM O. WOLD.

William O. Wold is a native of Clitherall township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, and is the son of Christian O. Wold and Johanna (Paulson) Wold, both natives of Norway, who emigrated to America in the early days. Johanna (Paulson) Wold was born on August 6, 1842, and Christian O. Wold was born on January 29, 1836. He was a blacksmith while a resident of Norway, and followed that vocation for many years. After his arrival in the United States, in 1866, he located in Chicago for a few years and then removed to Otter Tail county, Minnesota, where he secured a homestead in Clitherall township in 1870, and remained there for the rest of his life. The farm consisted of one hundred and sixty acres of unimproved land and, as markets were a great distance from the source of production and the necessities of life were costly, the struggle for an honorable competency was hard and long but gradually the place was improved and put under cultivation and became a comfortable home. To the union of Christian O. Wold and his wife were born the children whose names follow: Ole Marius, Kaja S., Charles V., Soren, Joseph, Axel, Minnie (deceased), William H. and Flyira. The father and mother of these children were both devout members of the Norwegian Lutheran church. Christian O. Wold was a Republican in his political faith. He died on September 12, 1911.

William O. Wold was born on February 9, 1885, in Clitherall township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, on his father's farm. His education was received in the schools of Clitherall township, following which he assisted his father with the work on the home place for several years, but after his marriage to Gina Foss, daughter of Tarkel and Kari (Tveton) Foss, on June 9, 1909, he removed to Timber Lake, South Dakota, and purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land, under the homestead law, and remained there until 1912. He then returned to Otter Tail county, Minnesota, and purchased the place on which they now reside. This farm con-

sists of one hundred and sixty acres, in St. Olaf township, on which he does general farming and stock raising.

To William O. Wold and his wife have been born the children whose names follow: Curtis T., born on May 19, 1910; Kenneth J., born on August 25, 1912, and Ethel L., who was born on July 21, 1914. William O. Wold and his wife are active members of the Norwegian Lutheran church. Politically, William O. Wold is allied with the independent voters of the country. Christian O. Wold, father of William O. Wold, died in September, 1911.

Gina Foss was born on December 23, 1886, on the farm which is now owned by her and her husband, and which her father, Tarkel Foss, homesteaded in 1868. Tarkel Foss and his wife were both natives of Norway. He came to the United States when a young man, in 1867, and selected this farm as a permanent home and it was here that his death occurred. To Mr. and Mrs. Tarkel Foss were born three children, whose names follow: Andrina, Ole and Gina. Tarkel Foss and his wife were members of the Norwegian Lutheran church. Kari (Tveton) Foss was married, secondly, to Michael Holoien, and her death occurred on October 26, 1914. Tarkel Foss made a trip to Norway in 1879 and returned in 1880. He died on December 18, 1887.

CHRISTIAN EGGUM.

A citizen and farmer who is known throughout St. Olaf township and the vicinity, as a man who has been peculiarly successful in agricultural pursuits, as well as a man who in the public life and affairs of the community is prepared, as a result of broad training and natural ability, for the larger matters in connection with communal welfare, is Christian Eggum. Born of one of Otter Tail county's best families, a man who has had the advantage of special culture and instruction, and a citizen who in the conduct of his personal affairs, as in his efforts to aid his locality, has proved his value and worth, he is a man without a review of whose life this work would be incomplete.

Christian Eggum was born on the Eggum homestead in St. Olaf township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, May 12, 1882, the son of Knudt O. Eggum and Anne Ramsey, both of whom were natives of Norway, in which country Knudt O. Eggum was a laborer, a line of endeavor which he followed until the year 1863, when he came to America and located in the state of Iowa, where he worked as a farm helper for two years, then for two years rented a farm which he cultivated, afterwards moving to the state of Minnesota, there homesteading a farm of one hundred and sixty acres in

St. Olaf township, Knult O. Eggum being one of the first men to settle in that township. After many hardships and privations, due to his lack of means as well as his great distance from a railroad, this pioneer farmer was able to gain a clear title to his land, and later he was able to improve his farm extensively and to have a comfortable home and ample land for general farming and stock raising, which he followed until his death, in the year 1898. Knult O. Eggum and Anne Ramsey were the parents of seven children, Martha, Hans, Carrie, Ludia, Christina, Anna and Christian. In church affiliation, Knult O. Eggum was of the Norwegian Lutheran church. Politically, the elder Eggum was an ardent Republican.

Christian Eggum, the subject of this sketch, received his education in the common schools of St. Olaf township, this county, and following the death of his father Christian Eggum became a farmer, cultivating the home farm, a place on which he is now engaged in general agricultural pursuits and in the raising of good grade live stock.

On July 20, 1904, Christian Eggum was married to Lena Thorgerson, and to this marriage has been born two children, Milo Lyle and Beatrice Evelyn. Christian Eggum and his family are faithful and devout members of the Norwegian Lutheran church at St. Olaf, Minnesota, a congregation in which Mr. Eggum and his wife are actively engaged in the support of the works, efforts and worship.

Politically, Christian Eggum has taken no especial part, but it is only fair to this capable citizen to say that his efforts and works in general and public matters have done no little in making the locality known for its progress and advanced methods in the various lines of work.

FRED L. WEBER

Endowed with strong faculties and possessed of business sagacity in the truest sense of the word is Fred L. Weber, who has reached a prominent place in the financial world of Otter Tail county, Minnesota. Success has come to him through individual effort and public recognition of his powers as a man of understanding and sympathy and as a citizen with the welfare of the community at heart. Fred L. Weber was born in Burlington, Iowa, on the 20th of September, 1859. He is the son of Charles S. and Margaret (Shimmer) Weber, both of whom were born in Germany. Charles Weber left his native land for America in 1846, and upon arriving in this country took up his residence in the state of Iowa, where he became a druggist and a physician. Mr. and Mrs. Weber reared a family of four children.

The common schools of St. Cloud, Minnesota, furnished the elementary education received by the subject of this sketch. He also completed the high

school course at St. Cloud. Wishing to develop his powers as a student he entered St. John's College and finally completed his educational training in the normal school at St. Cloud. Mr. Weber began his professional career in 1879 as a teacher in the schools of Otter Tail county, where he had charge of the Perham school. Later he became interested in the general store owned by M. Walz and served as a clerk in the establishment until 1887. In the year just mentioned, the subject of this sketch bought a half interest in the store, and the partnership thus contracted lasted for five years. At the end of that time, after selling the store, the men who had been partners in the business established the Perham Bank. This was in 1891. Mr. Weber assumed the position as cashier of the bank and remained in that capacity until 1900, when he became the sole owner of the bank. In 1908 the Perham Bank was organized into a state bank, and at that time the subject of this sketch took J. H. Shea as a partner, who now serves as cashier.

In 1887 the marriage of Fred L. Weber to Mary A. Walz, the daughter of Michael Walz, and a native of Illinois, took place. To this union one child has been born, Norbert O., who died at the age of twelve years. Mr. and Mrs. Weber attend St. Henry's Catholic church.

Mr. Weber has served the community in a number of offices, among which have been secretary of the school board, an office he has held for twenty-three years, and village treasurer, in which capacity he has served for twenty years. As a man possessing high attributes of character he is looked upon as a force for good in the business world, which has been the field of his endeavors.

HARRY S. PRICHETT, D. D. S.

Dr. Harry S. Prichett, who is one of the leading professional men engaged in the practice of dental surgery, and a citizen who is honored for his public-spirited interest in the various affairs of Perham, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, was born at Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, on November 18, 1869, a son of John and Mary (Pancoast) Prichett, natives of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

John Prichett, who was a member of the firm known as Prichett, Baugh & Company, hide and leather dealers of Philadelphia, moved to Minneapolis, Minnesota, in 1880, where he established himself in business and where he lived for the remainder of his days, as a hide and leather dealer. John and Mary Prichett were the parents of three children: E. K., John and Harry S.

Harry S. Prichett received his early education in a private school of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and after moving to Minneapolis, Minnesota,

completed his preparatory education in the public schools of that city. In 1893 Harry S. Prichett became a student in the college of dentistry at the University of Pennsylvania, at Philadelphia, three years later graduating with the degree of Doctor of Dental Surgery. Following the completion of his professional education, Dr. H. S. Prichett began the practice of his profession at Wilkesbarre, Pennsylvania, remaining there for about one and one-half years, after which he went to Alexandria, Minnesota, where he was engaged in his professional duties for a short time. During the year 1896, Doctor Prichett moved to Perham, Minnesota, where he has since lived, not only as one successfully engaged in the practice of his profession, but as a citizen who, though not aspiring to public office, has none the less been one of the most influential and beneficial elements in local citizenship. Politically, Doctor Prichett is a Republican.

During the year 1897 Dr. Harry S. Prichett was married to Bernice Merwin, and to this marriage has been born one child, Mary Josephine.

Fraternally, Dr. H. S. Prichett is a member of the Ancient Free and Accepted Masons and also of the Woodmen of the World.

CASPER W. LOTTERER.

A man of exceptional business acumen and broad understanding of civic affairs is Casper Lotterer, whose success in life has been won through individual effort and constant application to duty. The Lotterer name has been a familiar one in Otter Tail county for almost thirty years and has stood for achievement. Casper Lotterer was born in the city of New York on the 1st of October, 1886, and is the son of Casper Lotterer, a native of Wurtemberg, Germany, and of Elizabeth (Froelich) Lotterer, who was born in New Haven, Connecticut. The father of the subject of this sketch, who was a barber in New Haven, Connecticut, came to Perham, Otter Tail county, in the year 1887. In this locality he opened a barber shop and remained in business until 1903, when his death occurred. He was survived by the following sons: Casper W. and Charles. His son, William, met death by accident in 1901.

Since early childhood Casper W. Lotterer has been a resident of Minnesota. He was educated in the public schools of Perham, and upon finishing the course prescribed, learned the barber's trade. In 1901 he was proficient in this line of work and after practicing it for some time was able to buy out his father's shop. He started to manage the business formerly held by his father, in 1901, and has continued to retain his interest in the shop until the present time. Mr. Lotterer has extended his business activities to many

fields, and at the present time is occupied chiefly as deputy oil inspector in Otter Tail and Becker counties. Since 1911 he has served as justice of the peace at Perham.

In the practical affairs of business life, Mr. Lotterer has exemplified the highest attributes of character, and thus has won friends among all classes of people. As a citizen he is public spirited and takes an affirmative stand for every movement for the betterment of the industrial life in the community in which he lives.

On the 2nd of August, 1904, the marriage of Casper W. Lotterer and Della E. Rasmusson, the daughter of S. Rasmusson, was solemnized. To this union the following children have been born: Vinette, whose birth occurred on the 17th of June, 1905, and Arthur, who was born on the 23rd of September, 1907.

In his political relations, Mr. Lotterer is a member of the Democratic party, and he and his wife are both members of the German Lutheran church. He is active in fraternal organizations, being affiliated with the Masons and also with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. As president of the Advancement Club of Perham he has shown executive ability of marked character.

MATHIAS MONSON.

In dedicating the following sketch to the gentleman whose name is seen above, only a generalization is made of the principal events of his life, including his agricultural and financial accomplishments, and his public-spirited interest in Pelican township, Otter Tail county, where he has resided since 1894.

Mathias Monson, farmer, Pelican Rapids, Pelican township, was born on February 13, 1852, in Dane county, Wisconsin, and is a son of Ole and Rondenä (Svenson) Monson. He attended the public schools of Fillmore county, remaining on the home place until 1875, when he bought eighty acres of land in his native county, which he farmed for six years. In 1882 Mr. Monson went to South Dakota, where he took up a homestead of four hundred and sixty acres, living there until 1894, when he rented out his land and moved to Pelican township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, where he rented land for one year, and in 1895 he bought one hundred and sixty acres and now has two hundred and four acres. He has put all the improvements on the place, and follows general farming, combined with stock raising, making a specialty of purebred Durham cattle. Politically, he is an independent voter. Religiously, he belongs to the Norwegian Lutheran church, in the work of which he has officiated as trustee.

Ole Monson was born in Norway, where he was united in marriage with Rondenä Svenson, also a native of that country. Mr. Monson was a man of limited means in his home country, earning his living as a day laborer. He came to America in 1850, settling for a few years in Dane county, Wisconsin, after which he moved to Fillmore county, Minnesota, where he took up a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres, where he spent the remainder of his life. Mr. and Mrs. Monson reared a family of eight children, all of whom are living in 1915.

Mathias Monson was united in marriage in 1870 with Karen Onsum, daughter of Ole Onsum, to which union eleven children have been born: Ole, Otto, Rudolph, Othelia, Carl, Emma, Edwin, Albert, Martin, Laura and Lauritz. Laura died when eight months old.

Mr. Monson has won the reputation of being one of the most thrifty and prosperous farmers of Pelican township, his neat and well-cared-for place being one of the most attractive in that community.

MARTIN SHEA.

Martin Shea, popularly known as "Colonel" Shea, is one of the prominent and progressive business men of this locality, and has done much for the betterment of civic conditions. He is a native of Ireland and his birth occurred on October 12, 1844. He is the son of James and Honora (Spaesy) Shea, both natives of Ireland. They were the parents of nine boys and remained residents of their native country until their deaths.

Martin Shea received his education in the common schools of Ireland and after completing same engaged in farming. He emigrated to America in 1865, arriving in the month of June, and located in Pennsylvania, where he engaged in railroad work for three years. He then removed to Des Moines, Iowa, where he was employed as a foreman for a railroad company and was instrumental in building the track from Des Moines, Iowa, to Fort Dodge, Iowa. In the spring of 1871, he accepted a position with the Northern Pacific Railroad Company and traveled by stage from St. Cloud to Brainerd, Minnesota, arriving on April 19, 1871. He assisted in laying the first track from Brainerd to Moorhead, Minnesota. In 1872 he was put in charge of a construction train and continued to operate same for three years. In the fall of 1874 he decided to quit the railroad work and purchased a farm in Rush Lake township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, consisting of one hundred and sixty acres, which he continued to cultivate for three years. In 1878 he engaged in the hotel business in the town of Perham, Minnesota, building the present hostelry in 1898, and is still operating

one of the best hotels in the county. The building is one hundred by fifty-six feet in dimensions.

One June 13, 1875, Martin Shea was united in marriage to Maria Bridgemann, and to them have been born these children: James, George, William, Edward, Isabell and Irene. Martin Shea and his wife are stanch members of St. Henry's Catholic church, and he is a member of the Knights of Columbus. Politically, he is a Democrat and served as postmaster during Grover Cleveland's first administration.

HENRY WILSHUSEN.

Henry Wilshusen, well-to-do farmer and one of the prominent men of public life, in Friberg township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, was born in Hanover, Germany, on September 5, 1858, the son of John and Meta (Hink) Wilshusen, natives of Hanover, Germany. John Wilshusen was the son of John Wilshusen, Sr., who spent his entire life as a farmer in Germany. John Wilshusen came to America in 1884, and located in Friberg township, this county, where he lived with his son, Henry, until February, 1895, when the elder Wilshusen died. Meta, the widow of John Wilshusen, survived her husband by only two months, she dying in April, 1895. John and Meta Wilshusen were the parents of the following children: John, Charles, Henry, Fred, Carsten, Katherine and George.

Henry Wilshusen received his education in the public schools of his native country, after which he became a school teacher in the schools of Germany, a work which he followed until 1880, when he came to America. After spending more than a year at the city of Brooklyn, New York, where he visited with a brother, Henry Wilshusen went to St. Louis, Missouri, and made his home in that city for six months, after which he came to Friberg township, this county, in July, 1882, and worked as a farm helper for two years. In 1884, Henry Wilshusen bought eighty acres of land in Friberg township, where he established a home, and after some time he bought eighty additional acres, making one hundred and sixty acres of well-improved and highly-cultivated land which Mr. Wilshusen now owns.

During the year 1891, Henry Wilshusen was married to Adelheid Muller, and to this marriage have been born ten children, namely: John D., Herman C., Henry G., Adele M., Margaret E., May C., Frieda M., Walter F., Regina W. and Reinhold T.

As a public man and office holder, Henry Wilshusen is one of the best and most favorably known citizens of Friberg township. Mr. Wilshusen has served his community for many years as road overseer, for two years he has served as township assessor, has been clerk of the school district

since 1903 and holds that office today, for twelve years was school district treasurer and for some years he was constable. Mr. Wilshusen is now serving as justice of the peace, an office which he has occupied for some years. Henry Wilshusen is one of the highly-respected and esteemed citizens of Friberg township, Otter Tail county.

JOHN HOLT.

Among the well-known farmers of Elizabeth township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, is John Holt, who was born in Sweden, on June 10, 1850, the son of John and Christine (Jones) Hanson, natives of Sweden. John Hanson, with his family, came to America in 1871, and located at Jamestown, New York, near where he bought a farm of fifty-five acres, a place which the elder Hanson cultivated until his death, on August 31, 1900. Christine, the widow of John Hanson, now lives with her son, August Hanson, at Gerry, New York. John and Christine Hanson were the parents of seven children: John, August, Anna, Charles, Alfred, Mathilda and Lores.

John Holt received his education in the common schools of his native country, after which he came to America, in 1871, and located at Jamestown, New York, where he lived for two years and then moved to Otter Tail county, Minnesota, during the year 1873, and homesteaded eighty acres of land in section 22, Elizabeth township, a place which Mr. Holt has improved and to which he has added land, until now he is the owner of one hundred and seventy-five acres of desirable land in Elizabeth township.

On July 2, 1872, John Holt was married to Lena Peterson; to this marriage no children have been born. Lena, the wife of John Holt, died on April 8, 1911.

LOUIS RUD.

Louis Rud is a native of Norway and his birth occurred on June 13, 1865. He is the son of Martin and Sigerid (Olson) Rud, both natives of Norway. They were the parents of eleven children, seven of whom emigrated to America. Martin Rud and his wife remained in their native land until their deaths.

Louis Rud received his education in the schools of Norway and immigrated to America in June, 1887, locating in Otter Tail county, Minnesota, almost immediately. During the first year of his residence in this locality, he was employed near Pelican Rapids, but the following spring he removed to the state of Washington where he remained for eleven years. While a resident of that state, he was employed in the timber and as a farm hand. He also purchased eighty acres of land. He returned to Norway, where he

remained for a period of eighteen months, and then returned to Pelican Rapids. Shortly after his return, he purchased one hundred and seventeen acres of unimproved land from Knute Stevenson, in Lida township, section 27, on which he has since remained and which he devotes to general farming. He has improved this place completely, with the exception of the house which was built previous to his tenancy of the farm.

In 1900, Louis Rud was united in marriage to Laura Peterson and they are the parents of seven children whose names follow: Mary, Alga, Martin, Eleda, Fredrick, Lena and Melvin. Louis Rud and his wife are members of the Norwegian Lutheran church. Politically, Louis Rud is independent of party.

HANS NELSON.

Hans Nelson, well-known retired farmer of Friberg township, this county, was born in Denmark, May 6, 1850, the son of Hans and Mary Nelson, both of whom were natives of Denmark. Hans Nelson, Sr., was a farmer of his native country, an occupation which he followed there for his entire life, with the exception of a few years as a soldier of Denmark. Hans and Mary Nelson were the parents of four children, Henry, Hans, Mary and Katherine. Hans Nelson and his family were devout members of the Danish Lutheran church.

Hans Nelson was educated in the public schools of his native land, after which he married and shortly afterward came to America, in 1875, and went to Denison, Iowa, where he lived for ten years and then moved to the state of Nebraska, there becoming a farmer for about twenty years. In 1890, Hans Nelson came to Otter Tail county, and located in Fergus Falls township, where he lived as a farmer until 1905 and then came to Friberg township, where he bought one hundred and fifty-eight acres of land, which Mr. Nelson improved and to which he added, later, eighty acres. Hans Nelson, on his well-improved farm, now lives a retired life, the agricultural pursuits of his place being conducted by his children.

Hans Nelson has not only been successful as a farmer and of use to his community as one who has aided in the development of the township and its resources, but he has been of service to the country of his adoption as a soldier, Mr. Nelson having for six years served in the United States army. He was engaged in battle with the Sioux Indians in 1888. Hans Nelson rose to the rank of a sergeant, and served as such for three years, receiving an honorable discharge on November 4, 1893.

During the year 1874 Hans Nelson was married to Minnie Clever, of Denmark, in which country they were married, and to this marriage have

been born the following children: Charles, Hans, Anna, Katherine, Emma, Henry and Christian. Hans Nelson and his family are prominent members and active workers in the Danish Lutheran church, of Fergus Falls. As a fraternal man, Mr. Nelson is a member of the Knights of the Maccabees.

PEDER A. MOE.

Peder A. Moe, prominent farmer and citizen of Oscar township, this county, was born in Norway, November 26, 1855, the son of Andes and Martha Amenson, both of whom were natives of Norway. Andes Amenson was a farmer of his native country, an occupation which he followed the whole of his life.

Peder A. Moe came to America in 1886, and after his landing at Boston, Massachusetts, came to the state of Minnesota, and located at the town of Rothsay, in Oscar township. In his new location Peder A. Moe, secured one hundred and fifty acres of land, a place which Mr. Moe improved with a new house, a good barn and other buildings, which together make the farm of Peder A. Moe, one of the desirable places for agricultural pursuits, in Oscar township.

During the year 1886, Peder A. Moe was married to Thea Otteson, and to this marriage have been born four children, Alfred, Martha, Magnus and Oscar. Mr. Moe and his family are active members of the Norwegian Lutheran church, of Rothsay.

As a business man Peder A. Moe takes rank among the more prominent of Oscar township, he being a stockholder of the Rothsay Elevator Company, of Rothsay, Minnesota. In politics, Peder A. Moe has taken no especial part although he is known as a man and citizen who is interested in general welfare and public improvement.

GEORGE H. MILLER.

Of the farmers and stock raisers throughout Otter Tail county, probably no one is more prominently connected or more widely known for his part in the life and activities of the community, than is George H. Miller, the subject of this sketch. Extensively engaged in scientific farming, a breeder of fine stock, the quality of which is second to none in the locality, a man who in business and financial circles is conspicuously affiliated, and a citizen who in the matters of community life and as a holder of public office is a leader and is one with an enviable record of achievement and accomplishments, no resume of his career in this county could be complete without reference to the notable achievements of this worthy citizen.

George H. Miller was born in New York City, June 28, 1870, the son

of John F. Miller, who was born in Hanover, Germany, on October 31, 1842, and Meta (Shumacher) Miller, who was born in Hanover, Germany, on January 20, 1838, both of whom came to America in the year 1864, and landed in New York City, where they lived for nineteen years, the elder Miller being a storekeeper there. During the year 1883 John F. and Meta Miller, with their family, came to Otter Tail county, Minnesota, and settled in Leaf Lake township, where John F. Miller purchased one hundred and twenty acres of land, which he cleared and improved, later adding one hundred and sixty-eight acres of land, making a farm of two hundred and eighty-eight acres of well-improved and highly-cultivated farm land which he owned at his death on November 12, 1911. Meta Miller, the widow of John F. Miller, now lives with her son, George, on the home place.

John F. Miller was one of the best-known and most highly-respected men of Otter Tail county, being a man known for his unselfish interest in the development of the community and for his support of church work and activities, more particularly the German Lutheran church, of which he was a prominent member. The elder Miller was one of the most progressive of the earlier farmers in this locality, finding great interest in the improvement and equipment of his farm with modern buildings and structures, together with the supplying of his place with the most approved implements and conveniences for the pursuit of general agricultural life.

George H. Miller was educated in the public schools of Leaf Lake township, attending district school No. 185, near his home, after which he engaged in farming, having inherited a portion of his father's farm; and after having purchased the interests of the other heirs he established on his place a stock farm, where he is now engaged in the breeding of fine quality Duroc-Jersey hogs, and in the breeding of Guernsey cattle. In addition to his general farm work, George H. Miller conducts a dairy, keeping for this purpose fifteen head of purebred and good grade cows.

George H. Miller is one of the best-known stockmen of the county, his counsel and judgment in matters affiliated with this pursuit being conceded to be of the best and of the greatest value for the development of this business, a testimony of which is his occupancy of the office as president of the Guernsey Breeders' Association of Otter Tail county.

On June 1, 1905, George H. Miller was married to Mary Buerge, who was born in Fillmore county, Minnesota, March 30, 1879, and to this marriage were born two daughters, Luella and Viola. George H. Miller and his family are members of the German Lutheran church, a congregation in which they are respected and esteemed communicants.

In public life George H. Miller has served long and with a clean and honorable record, as an official in the offices of town clerk, which he served

for eleven years; as a member of the school board, on which he held a seat for six years, and now as president of the Society of Equity, an office in which he serves the community in a business capacity. He is recognized as a man with no little ability and as a citizen whose unselfish endeavor for the welfare of the locality has done great things for the advancement of living conditions.

George H. Miller is connected with some of the large concerns and business interests of the county, being president of the Otter Tail Henning Telephone Company, a stockholder in the Otter Tail Creamery Company, is the owner of considerable stock in the Security State Bank, and he also is a shareholder in the Farmer's Elevator Company, of Henning and a shareholder in the Farmer's Store, at the town of Heinold, in Otter Tail county.

The life and activity of George H. Miller is one of the valuable assets of business and agricultural circles in this county, and he, by his progressiveness and his intelligent effort, has won a place of permanent appreciation in the hearts of the people of his county.

OLIVER OLSON.

Another prominent citizen in the commercial life of Fergus Falls, this county, is Oliver Olson, who is engaged in the fire, life and accident-insurance business and who is secretary and manager of St. Luke's hospital; secretary and treasurer of the Fergus Falls Ugeblad Newspaper Publishing Company, and president of the company operating the Fergus Falls woolen mills. He has served as secretary and manager of St. Luke's hospital for the past ten years.

Oliver Olson was born near the city of Roros, Norway, May 1, 1852, the son of Esten and Ingerberg (Olson) Olson. The Olson family came to America in 1860, by way of Quebec, Canada, settling in Winnesheik county, Iowa, where they remained for about one year. During this time, the father made a trip to Tordenskjold township, Otter Tail county, where he homesteaded a quarter of a section of land. In the fall of 1870 the family moved from Iowa to Otter Tail county, first living in a dug-out and later in a log house, part of which house later was used for a school house and is still standing. The first teacher was Alice Fitch. Mr. Olson was the first clerk of the district.

In 1875 Oliver Olson moved to Stony Brook, Grant county, this state, where he "squatted" on a piece of land, which he afterward pre-empted from the government. There he lived during the summers for several years and, during the winter months, worked as a clerk in various insurance offices in Fergus Falls.



OLIVER OLSON

In 1883 Oliver Olson was married to Olin Story, and since his marriage has lived continuously in Fergus Falls. To this union there were born five children, Inga, Esther, Olive, Agnes and Oleen. Esther Olson married George Oberg, of Los Angeles, California, and has two children, Oliver and Georgia. Olive Olson married Alfred Aunan, of Fergus Falls, and has one child, Agnes. Mrs. Olin Olson died in 1895 and, five years later, Mr. Olson married, secondly, Mette Melby, a native of Norway.

Since coming to Otter Tail county, Mr. Olson has served as probate clerk of the county for fifteen years and also as judge of the probate for two years. He is the present city assessor of Fergus Falls and has held that office for the past ten years. Mr. Olson is also secretary of the Old Settlers' Association, a position which he has held for eleven years. This association was founded by the venerable George Cowing and Eli Dewey. Mr. and Mrs. Olson occupy a comfortable home in Fergus Falls, where they are well-known and highly-respected citizens.

JOHN HAGLUND.

John Haglund, a well-to-do farmer of Compton township, this county, who has a well-kept farm and a well-improved tract of land in section 30, comprising one hundred and sixty acres, was born in Sweden.

Mr. Haglund is a son of a native of Sweden, a farmer by occupation, who died in the old country. Mr. Haglund's parents were members of the Lutheran church and his father was trained in the military schools of Sweden. The father died on November 28, 1878, at the age of seventy-eight years, and the mother in 1893. Of their seven children, two, Erick and Peter, the two eldest, are deceased. The living children are, John, Martha, Inger, Christene and Maggie.

John Haglund came to America shortly after the death of his mother in 1893. He had received a liberal education in the public schools of his native land and, after arriving at Quebec, Canada, proceeded almost immediately to Ashland, Wisconsin, where he remained one month. Afterward, Mr. Haglund moved to Wadena county, Minnesota, where he lived for two months and then came on to Otter Tail county, purchasing the farm which he now owns, and upon which he now lives.

On September 3, 1893, John A. Haglund was married to Betty Swan son, a native of Sweden, and to them have been born four children, Erick, Amanda, Albin and Herlof.

Since the purchase of his original farm of one hundred and sixty acres, Mr. Haglund has increased the acreage until he now owns altogether two hundred acres. In 1913 he built a splendid barn, thirty-two by fifty feet.

In 1914 he rebuilt his house. Mr. Haglund is especially a dairy farmer and has made a most praiseworthy success in this department of farming.

Mr. and Mrs. John Haglund are active members of the Lutheran church and are otherwise prominent in the neighborhood where they live.

SWAN JOHNSON.

One of the best-known farmers of Otter Tail county, Minnesota, a man who has been unusually successful in agricultural pursuits, as well as being a man who takes an important part in the business life of Compton township, is Swan Johnson. Public spirited, capable in those things to which he applies himself and a man whose value to the community has been demonstrated by his record in public life, he is a leading citizen of Otter Tail county.

Swan Johnson was born in Carver county, Minnesota, February 15, 1860, being one of twin sons born to Peter and Johanna (Anderson) Johnson. Peter Johnson and his wife were natives of Sweden, who lived in that country until the year 1858, when they came to America and landed at Boston, Massachusetts, following a six-weeks voyage across the Atlantic ocean. Peter and Johanna Johnson went to Carver county, Minnesota, where they lived for three years and then moved to Washington county, Minnesota, living there for four years, after which they went to Dakota county, Minnesota, a place where they lived for eleven years and then came to Otter Tail county, Minnesota, locating in section 20, of Compton township, where Peter Johnson took up a homestead of eighty acres of land on which he lived for the remainder of his days. Peter Johnson was one of the best-known and one of the most useful men of his community, taking an active interest in the development of the county and in the promotion of those things having for their object the betterment of living conditions, among which was his particular interest and effort in the building of the Swedish Lutheran church in Compton township. Peter Johnson finished his helpful and generous life during the year 1899.

Swan Johnson, the subject of this sketch, following his education in the public schools of the state of Minnesota, became a farmer on a farm of eighty acres of land which he received from the estate of his father, land which at that time being untilled, this sturdy farmer proceeded to cultivate, and in time he added to his holdings until he now owns two hundred and eighty acres of well-improved and highly-cultivated land in Compton and Oak Valley townships of Otter Tail county.

On December 26, 1880, Swan Johnson was married to Beda Anderson, who was born in Sweden, the daughter of Ole Anderson and wife, who came to America and located in Otter Tail county, where he purchased two

hundred and forty acres of land in Compton township, a place on which he lived for the remainder of his life. To the marriage of Swan and Beda Johnson were born the following children: Theodore S., Fannie M., Oscar E., Ellen A., Fred W. and Emma E., the latter being a school teacher of Lancaster, Minnesota. Swan Johnson and his family are members of the Swedish Lutheran church in Wadena, and are respected and esteemed as workers and strong supporters of the denomination.

In business circles Swan Johnson is notably affiliated, being president of the Deer Creek Creamery Company for six years, previously having been treasurer of the same company. The life of Swan Johnson has been of great value to the community, not only in business, agricultural, and church circles, but in all things for the promotion of the county and township and its various interests and enterprises.

WILHELM LUHNING.

Wilhelm Luhnning, progressive farmer and leader in agricultural circles of Otter Tail township, this county, was born in Hanover, Germany, on May 26, 1879, the son of Henry and Doris (Crans) Luhnning, natives of Germany. Henry Luhnning, who was the son of Alor Luhnning, a farmer and shoemaker of Germany, received his education in the common schools of his native land, after which he came, in 1899, to America, and joined his son, Wilhelm, who had preceded him by about two years, and who was established as a farmer in Otter Tail township. On reaching Otter Tail county, Henry Luhnning purchased three hundred and thirty acres of land in Otter Tail township, where he lived as a farmer, until his death in 1914. Doris, the wife of Henry Luhnning, is now living in Otter Tail township. Henry and Doris Luhnning were the parents of the following children: Fredrick, Carl, August, Catherine, Henry, William and Diedrick. The elder Luhnning was a prominent member of the German Lutheran church, a denomination which is actively supported by his family.

Wilhelm Luhnning, after his education, which he received in the schools of Germany, came to America, in 1897, and located at Perham, Minnesota, near where he became a farm employee for two years, and then, his father having arrived, Wilhelm Luhnning, together with his father, engaged in general agricultural pursuits, on three hundred and thirty-three acres of land which the elder Luhnning acquired. On his farm in Otter Tail township Wilhelm Luhnning is now successfully engaged in general farming and in stock raising. The farm of Mr. Luhnning is one of the best improved and most thoroughly equipped of the community, this progressive farmer not only having the best of buildings, but excellent equipment, among which is a complete threshing outfit, which he uses for his own grain.

During the year 1906, Wilhelm Luhnig was married to Gusta Ohlrogge, a native of Germany, and to this marriage have been born five children: Louise, Arthur, Ernest, Emma and Henry. Mr. Luhnig and his family are members of the German Lutheran church.

William Luhnig has been active in the public life of Otter Tail township, being prominent in all public movements. He has served his township as treasurer for ten years.

MRS. EMILIE SPIES.

Mrs. Emilie Spies, of Elizabeth township, Otter Tail county, was born in Wurtemberg, Germany, and is a daughter of George and Caroline (Meyer) Koch. She came to America in 1867, with friends, and was united in marriage after her arrival. After the death of her husband, she took over the management of the home place, consisting of one hundred and sixty acres, and is still in charge.

George and Caroline (Meyer) Koch were both born in Germany. They came to America in 1853, locating at Georgetown, Virginia, where Mr. Koch followed the brewery business. His wife died in 1840, leaving surviving, her husband and three children, Mary, Emilie and Charles. Mary Koch came to America in 1857, and Emilie came in 1867.

Emilie Koch was united in marriage on June 10, 1871, at Alexandria, Virginia, with Christian Spies, son of Henry and Anna (Dickup) Spies. He was born on November 20, 1832, at Dernbach, Germany, coming to America in 1867, and landing at New York. From there he went to Washington, D. C., where he engaged in the brewery business for three years, at the end of which time he went to Duluth, Minnesota, following the same vocation. The next year he returned to Washington for a short time, and then came to Otter Tail county and bought the homestead where the subject of this sketch now resides, consisting of one hundred and sixty acres. This place was originally entered by Jacob Frey, to whom Mr. Spies paid the purchase price of five hundred and fifty dollars. He put valuable improvements on the place. At the time of his death, which occurred on May 2, 1896, Mr. Spies owned two hundred acres of fine agricultural land. He was an earnest member of the Catholic church. A substantial house was rebuilt in 1897, a machine shop, and a granary, which was built three years later.

Mr. and Mrs. Christian Spies were the parents of seven children: Caroline, Albert, Henry, Emily, Charles, Rose and Frank. Henry Spies was united in marriage with Clara Wedell, and resides in Elizabeth township, this county. They have one child, Cyril. Emily Spies became the wife of Charles F. Johnson, and is also a resident of Elizabeth township. They have two children, Rose and Caroline. Charles Spies was united in mar-

riage with Catherine Sha, and lives in Oscar township. No children have been born to this marriage. The other children of Christian and Emilie (Koch) Spies are living at home.

Henry Spies, father of Christian Spies, was a native of Germany, as was also his wife, Anna (Dickup) Spies. He was engaged in the crockery business, and spent his entire life in his native country, with the exception of the last fifteen years, which were spent in Belgium, where he was engaged in the same business. He traveled all over Germany and Belgium in the sale of his wares. Both Mr. and Mrs. Henry Spies were members of the Catholic church. They were the parents of four children: Peter, Christian, Henry and John Adam. Peter, the eldest son, was born in Holland; Christian and Henry were born in Germany, and John Adams was a native of Belgium. Peter, Henry and John were the first to come to America; Henry and Christian coming later, at different periods.

Mrs. Emilie Spies is a woman who is sympathetic and loving in her disposition, and is kind and considerate of those in distress. She has many warm and admiring friends in Elizabeth township, where she is known and respected by all.

RICHARD ANDERSON.

Born in Carver county, Minnesota, January 9, 1876, Richard Anderson, a well-known farmer of Compton township, this county, is the son of Olaus and Anna Anderson, both of whom were natives of Sweden. Olaus Anderson came to America in 1871, after his marriage, and upon landing in New York City, he moved to Carver county, Minnesota. Seven months later he was joined by his wife and children, and there rented land for seven years, when they came to Compton township, Otter Tail county. Here they homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres in section 20, Compton township, and here Olaus Anderson lived until his death. He was a member of the Lutheran church and had been a farmer in his native country.

There were born to Olaus and Anna Anderson eight children: Mary, Alfred, Beda, Augusta, August, Ida, Richard and John. Of these children, Mary resides at Grantsburg, in Burnett county, Wisconsin. John lives at Wadena, Minnesota. August is deceased. The remainder of the children live in Otter Tail county.

When the family settled in Otter Tail county their homestead farm was all wild land, but it has been cleared of its timber. The Anderson home farm included, at the time of Mr. Anderson's death, two hundred and forty acres, which had been very greatly improved.

Since his father's death, Richard Anderson has had charge of the home farm. Mr. Anderson himself owns one hundred and twenty acres of land

in section 32, of Compton township, and has owned this farm for the past thirteen years. There are, however, no buildings on the farm. With Mr. Anderson are his sister, Augusta, and his mother, and they all live together on the home place. Mr. Anderson has made a very great success in raising Polled Angus cattle. The Anderson family are all members of the Lutheran church and take an active interest in religious matters in their home community.

PETER G. LAUGEN.

Peter G. Laugen, farmer, Elizabeth township, Otter Tail county, was born on October 18, 1852, in Wisconsin, and is a son of Gullick Laugen. His early education was received at the public schools of Rushford, Fillmore county, Minnesota, after which he attended high school for three years, and then began the vocation of an agriculturist, in which he has continued to prosper from the start. In 1889, Mr. Laugen bought one hundred and fifty-three and one-half acres, to which he afterward added forty acres more. This property is located three miles north of Elizabeth, where he follows general farming. He has put all the improvements on the place, including a substantial house and barn. Politically, he has always given his support to the Republican party, in the politics of which he has taken an active local interest, having served as assessor for one term and township supervisor for sixteen years. He has been school clerk of the district since the office was originated in 1892. Religiously, Mr. Laugen belongs to the Lutheran church at Elizabeth, Minnesota.

Gullick Laugen, father of the subject of this sketch, was born in Norway, and received his education there, but he acquired a thorough knowledge of the language and customs of this country. Politically, he was a stanch Republican, and was at one time representative for Fillmore county. His eyesight became impaired, and he was obliged to discontinue his political life. Religiously, he was a member of the Lutheran church. He was united in marriage with Rachnild Hasbrud, also a native of Norway. They came to America in 1845, going directly to Rock county, Wisconsin, where they lived for about fourteen years, at the end of which time they moved to Fillmore county, Minnesota, spending their last days at La Crosse, where Mr. Laugen suddenly dropped dead in February, 1878, at which time he was a mail agent. He made several business changes during his life, and had acquired two hundred acres of valuable land, which was located at Newburg. His wife died in November, 1894.

The paternal grandfather is supposed to have been Ole Laugen, a farmer in Norway, where he lived and died, and was a member of the Lutheran church. After his death, his widow came to America, bringing

with her their son, Ole. The children born to this union were: Ole, Ole, Gunder, Anna, Gullick and Holver, all of whom, with the exception of Holver, came to America at a later date.

Peter G. Laugen was united in marriage on September 1, 1883, with Kate Sletvold, who was born in Norway. This marriage has been blest with ten children: Mary, John, Inga, Oscar, Peter, Anna, George, Alice, Clarence and Florence. Mary Laugen became the wife of Oscar Norgren, and lives in Elizabeth township.

Mr. Laugen is a modest, unassuming man, and holds a high place among the enterprising men of his county, where his honesty is above question, and where his genuine personal worth is thoroughly appreciated.

OSCAR JOHNSON.

The subject of the following sketch has been a resident here for almost sixty years, his financial achievement being sufficient answer or explanation of his appreciation of his adopted home. His splendid tract of over two hundred acres is considered one of the most valuable farms in Otter Tail county. He has always been a thrifty, saving man, and can now reap the benefit of his agricultural efforts.

Oscar Johnson, farmer, Elizabeth township, Fergus Falls, Otter Tail county, was born on December 1, 1842, in Sweden, and is a son of John Johnson and his wife, Marie M. Johnson. He was educated in his native country, and came to America in 1868, landing at New York City, from where he went direct to Michigan and was employed in an iron mine in Marquette county until 1870, and a few years later went to the gold fields of the West. In 1881, he came to Minnesota, settling in Otter Tail county, where he bought his present farm, consisting of two hundred and forty acres. Politically, Mr. Johnson has long been a staunch Republican, while in religion, both he and his wife are members of the Swedish Lutheran church, taking a great interest in the work.

John Johnson, father of the subject of this sketch, was born in Sweden, as was also his wife, Marie M. (Johnson) Johnson, between whom there was no blood kinship. Mr. Johnson was a trained soldier in his native land, but never participated in battle. He was a great church man, and took an active interest in the work of the Lutheran church. His death occurred in 1849. The children born to this union were: John, Peter, Oscar, Frank, Gusta, Elizabeth and Sara.

Oscar Johnson was united in marriage on November 26, 1882, with Carrie Jenson, daughter of Amen Jenson, of Norway. The children born to this union are as follow: Charles, William, Clara, Ella, Susan, Edwin, Clarence and Inga; only two of whom are married, William, who was mar-

ried to Laura Gabriel, and lives in Otter Tail county, and Clara, who became the wife of John Jacobson, and is also a resident of this county.

Mr. Johnson lives quietly on his home place near Fergus Falls, where he has done his part as one of the substantial men, and where he has added his pro rata amount of wealth to the community.

JENS TORGERSON.

Jens Torgerson, a prosperous farmer and well-known citizen of Tordenskjold township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, was born at Sopnes, near Talvake, Norway, July 18, 1857, and is the son of Michael and Kari (Thompson) Torgerson.

Michael Torgerson was born at Raroaas, Norway, and his wife at Tapluft, near Talvake, Norway, the former in 1815 and the latter about 1825. They were married in Norway and lived near Sopnes, where, for twenty-five years, Michael Torgerson taught school. After the death of his wife, in April, 1866, Michael Torgerson came to America with his family. The voyage to America was made on a steamship and, on their arrival in America, the family spent one winter in Winneshiek county, Iowa. After moving to St. Paul, Minnesota, Michael Torgerson left three daughters in that city, and, with three sons and two daughters, came to Otter Tail county. The journey from St. Paul to St. Cloud was made by rail and from St. Cloud to Otter Tail county by wagon. Upon arriving in Otter Tail county, Mr. Torgerson homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of land in Tordenskjold township on the west shores of Stalker lake. A cabin built on the shore of the lake was destroyed by fire in 1870. For some time Mr. Torgerson had no horses and only two cows. Subsequently, he built another log house on a hill just north of the first and there lived until late in life, when he built a little house near the home of his son, Jens. He died there in 1888.

After coming to Otter Tail county, Michael Torgerson was married, secondly, to Ellen Haldorson. He taught school here for some years and, for some time, sang in the choir of his church. He was a prominent member of the Synod Lutheran church. Of his twelve children, four died early in life in Norway; Salvine married Robert Karsman and, having returned to Sweden, lives in Stockholm; Magdalena married Thomas Dwyer and lives in Minneapolis; John S. is a well-known farmer of Tordenskjold township; Lena married Andrew Burg and lives in Grand Island, Nebraska; Dora is the widow of Knut Foss and lives in Butte, Montana; Jens is the subject of this sketch; Bert lives at Temple, North Dakota, where he is a farmer; Bolletta married Samuel Huseby and lives in Fergus Falls.

Jens Torgerson was educated in Norway and in America, having come

to this country at the age of ten or twelve years. He attended the common schools of Iowa and Minnesota and assisted his father on the farm until 1883, when he went to Thirteen Towns and homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of land in Polk county, Minnesota. After two years he moved to Grant county and purchased one hundred and sixty acres of "tree claim" land, which his father had taken as a "tree claim" for his son, before he had reached his majority. After owning that farm for some years and living there during the summers, Mr. Torgerson sold out and settled permanently on the old homestead in Tordenskjold township, which he has now owned for some years. He has a thoroughly modern house which is well furnished, a magnificent barn and a large silo made of cement blocks. Mr. Torgerson is an extensive breeder of Percheron horses and owns a third interest in two very fine stallions. He is also a breeder of Shorthorn cattle and Chester White hogs. At the present time, he keeps about twenty or thirty head of cattle and some fifty or sixty head of hogs.

On November 17, 1890, Jens Torgerson was married to Josephine Johnson, who is a native of St. Olaf township, where she was born on November 3, 1871. She is the daughter of Knut and Anna (Olson) Johnson, who immigrated from Norway to America, prior to the Civil War. Mr. and Mrs. Torgerson have been the parents of nine children, namely: Clifford, who lives at home, was educated in the agricultural department of the University of Minnesota; Ada, who died at the age of nineteen months; Ada, who is a graduate of the State Normal School at Moorhead and has been a teacher for three years; Leonora, who was educated in the Park Region Lutheran College and in the agricultural department of the University of Minnesota; May, Raymond, Webster, who live at home; the eighth child died unnamed, and William Gordon, who died in infancy.

Mrs. Josephine (Johnson) Torgerson is a sister of Edward K. Johnson, a successful farmer and business man of Tordenskjold township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota. Mr. Johnson was born on February 3, 1877. The paternal grandparents of Mrs. Torgerson and Edward K. Johnson were John and Walburg Evenson, who lived at Stavanger, Norway, before they immigrated to America. After coming to this country, they settled in Fillmore county, where the grandfather engaged in farming. Later he moved to St. Olaf township, Otter Tail county, during the early seventies and took up a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres. He died about 1878 and his wife survived him several years, passing away about 1886. They were the parents of nine children, two of whom are now living in Otter Tail county. Mrs. Torgerson's father is one of the living children in this county and Andrew, a resident of Fergus Falls, is the other. The maternal grandparents of Mrs. Torgerson and Mr. Johnson were Ole and Martha (Gunder-

son) Torson, who spent their entire lives on a farm near Stavanger, Norway. They were the parents of nine children, Sigrid, who married Ole Vidvay and died in Norway; Joran, who married and died in Norway; Anna, who is the mother of Mrs. Torgerson and Mr. Johnson; Hilga, who married Paul Knutson and died in Iowa; Thore, who is a farmer in Norway; Martha, who married Bjelst Rowalson and lives in Iowa; Annie, who died unmarried in Norway; Olena, who married Joseph Kjordal and lives in Norway; Gunder, who is a farmer and lives in Norway.

Knut Johnson, the father of Mrs. Torgerson, was born on December 3, 1846, and the mother, Annie Oleson, October 5, 1836. She came to America alone about 1866 and lived in Fillmore county, Minnesota. Knut Johnson was brought to America in 1860 and settled in Fillmore county, Minnesota, where he was married. About 1869 he and his wife moved to Otter Tail county and settled in St. Olaf township, where they took up a homestead and lived until 1893. At that time they moved to Grant county, where they lived until 1909. At this time they moved to Otter Tail county and have since lived retired in Tordenskjold township. The father has been active in local politics and is identified with the Prohibition party. In 1864 Knut Johnson enlisted in Company B, First Regiment, Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, and served until the close of the Civil War.

To the marriage of Knut Johnson and Annie Oleson there were born five children, of whom John died at the age of fourteen; Olena married John Holt and lives in Grant county, Minnesota; Josephine married Jens Torgerson, the subject of this sketch; Cena, who died at the age of seven; and Edward K.

Edward K. Johnson was educated in the public schools of St. Olaf township and reared on a farm. He began farming for himself in Grant county. Later he purchased two hundred and eighty acres and lived there until the fall of 1909, when he sold out and moved to Otter Tail county. Here Mr. Johnson purchased one hundred and sixty acres in Tordenskjold township. He has since remodeled his house, erected a modern barn and built a silo. He is a general farmer and stockman. Mr. Johnson is a stockholder in the Mutual Telephone Company and in the Mutual Insurance Company.

In 1903 Edward K. Johnson was married to Gena Hoff, a native of Otter Tail county, Minnesota, the daughter of John P. Hoff, an old settler of this county. They have been the parents of four children, Margaret, Kenneth, Elmer and Halbert.

Mr. Johnson is independent in politics and has filled various school offices. Both he and his wife and family are members of the Free Lutheran church.

DOMINIC J. ESTERMAN.

Dominic J. Esterman, a native of Switzerland, was born in the canton of Freyburg, September 6, 1874, and is the son of Eberhard and Veronica (Hochstetter) Esterman.

Eberhard Esterman was born in the Canton of Lucerne, and his wife, who was of French descent, was born near the boundary line. There they were married and he pursued the occupation of farming, being a landowner. He died in 1876, and his widow afterward married a Mr. Webber and lived until 1912, when she passed away while living in Switzerland. Her father had served the customary time in the army of his country. Both Mr. and Mrs. Esterman were members of the Roman Catholic church. Three children were born to them, the first born being Eberhard, who after coming to America, returned to his native country and farms there today. Alois, the second child, grew up and became a farmer in Switzerland and is deceased. Dominic, the subject of this article, is the youngest born of this union. After her marriage to Mr. Webber, their mother had three sons who have remained in Switzerland.

Mr. Esterman had more than the average education for after his public school course he attended the high school for one term. He followed the example of his father in regard to occupation and in 1892, when eighteen years of age, started out alone for the shores of America. Having friends in Martin county, Minnesota, he moved directly to that locality and began working on a farm. In 1900, he bought a farm in Kennebec county, but never lived there. Making his home in Martin county until 1908, in that year he began a residence in Todd county which lasted for two years. He then became interested in land across the line in Otter Tail county and here he moved on one hundred and twenty acres, in sections 1 and 12, in Woodside township, which he purchased. As this land was unimproved, he immediately began to clear and cultivate it and to build the necessary structures for farm work. Here he has lived ever since and besides general farming has been a successful breeder of full-blooded Duroc-Jersey hogs.

In 1903 D. J. Esterman and Mary Sahli were married, she being a native of Todd county, and daughter of Samuel Sahli, one of the old settlers, who is still living in that county. The children born to them are, Florence, Emma, Elsie and Maurice.

Mr. Esterman has long had the confidence of the community in which he lives as evidenced by the fact that he has served in the capacity of school clerk. He is an independent voter. In the struggles and privations of the early years, Mrs. Esterman has ably and unselfishly co-operated with her husband in his work and ambitions. She is active in her church membership and both she and her husband belong to the United Brethren church.

The world is in need of such men as he whose career has only been touched upon here. In all the relations of life, Mr. Esterman has exhibited those traits of character best described by the word stalwart. Strong in mind and body, he has been true to the ideals inculcated in a home founded by pious parentage, and has become a type of man worthy of emulation and respect.

JOHN C. LIEDER.

As a man whose entire life has been given to agricultural pursuits, and this successfully, and also as one whose career and character are such as to command respect, John C. Lieder merits a place in the present publication. The family early became identified with the annals of this vicinity, and from the time of its appearance, to the present, there has been nothing to mar its honor, for both Mr. Lieder and his father have been eminently just and square in their dealings. Mr. Lieder, who is a native of LeSueur county, Minnesota, was born on March 1, 1881, and is the son of Christ and Johanna (Groschke) Lieder.

The parents of Mr. Lieder were born in Prussia, Germany, where they married and lived until the year 1872 or 1873, when they came to America. Living their first year in Faribault, Rice county, Minnesota, with friends, they then took up farming in LeSueur county on a farm which they rented for a couple of years. By the end of this time, Mr. Lieder had saved enough to buy a sixty-acre place, later adding another sixty acres and here he lived until his death which occurred in 1899. His wife continued to live on the farm with her sons until her death in 1907. Both were members of the German Evangelical church. They were parents of six children: Albert, who died an infant in Germany; Augusta, the widow of Lonney Sykes, lives with the subject of this sketch; Emil, who also lives with his brother John, but who also owns a farm in Oak Valley township; Otto G., who is in partnership with his brother, John; William died at the age of two; John C., the youngest.

John C. Lieder was brought up on his father's farm and attended the local schools. Receiving his share of the home farm, he lived there until 1901, and in January of that year came with his brother, Otto, to this county where they purchased one hundred and sixty acres in sections 11 and 12, of Woodside township. This land was only partially improved. In 1913, they bought an adjoining forty, in section 12, making two hundred acres. Three years after the first purchase the owners built a fine modern barn thirty by sixty feet, having hip-roof and concrete foundation. They also erected a well-house. They then began giving their special attention to the raising of full blooded Holstein cattle, and at present are especially interested in the dairy business and are the owners of fourteen milch cows.

Mr. Lieder has not limited his activities to agriculture for he is the present secretary of the Wrightstown Telephone Company. He belongs to the Modern Woodmen of America and to the Odd Fellows lodge. He votes with the Republican party. Mr. Lieder is a progressive farmer, a wide-awake man and a public-spirited citizen. He has won his present place by his own efforts and because of his consideration of others and his square dealing he has won the respect of all who know him; a respect which is well merited.

ANDREW EKSTAM.

Andrew Ekstam began his industrial career as a farmer in his native country of Sweden, where he was born in 1847, on the 15th of April. While employed on the farm, he spent some time in learning the carpenter's trade, which he mastered and used to a great advantage as a means of earning a living. The parents of the subject of this sketch, Anders Aaronson and Johanna Johnson, were both born in Sweden, in the year 1822. The father, who was a landowner, devoted his time to farming and to the trades of the blacksmith and carpenter. He worked at these occupations until his death, which occurred after he had reached the age of sixty years. The mother, who died at the age of seventy years, reared the following children; Andrew, to whom reference has already been made; Ulrika, who married C. Carlson, and who is living in Sweden; Aaron, a farmer, who died in Grant county, Minnesota; Matilda, who died in Sweden; Adolph, who is a farmer in Sweden; Hannah, the wife of August Anderson, who lives in Sweden; August, who lived in Chicago, and Victor, who died in Wisconsin, where he was employed in a saw-mill. Three of the children died in childhood.

At the age of twenty-three years Andrew Ekstam left his native country and came to America, where he settled in Ishpeming, Michigan, and for four years worked in the mines of that locality. At the end of that time, which was in 1874, he left for Dakota county, Minnesota, and worked on the farms of that section and also on the railroads which were being put through in that part of the state. He came to Otter Tail county in 1879 and bought eighty acres of land in section 28, of Scambler township. He spent the first few years clearing the land of underbrush and timber and during that time put up a log cabin which is still standing; part of this time was also spent in the Dakotas, where there was opportunity offered for making money. Mr. Ekstam has continued to add to his possessions until now he is the owner of one-half section in Scambler township. In 1909 he erected a modern residence designed with every convenience and has a barn of large proportions and perfect construction. Since realizing his ambi-

tion of building up a thoroughly modern farm, Mr. Ekstam has retired from active work on the place, and rents the land to his sons.

Andrew Ekstam was married, in 1876, to Mrs. Ida (Johnson) Anderson, a native of Norway and the daughter of Johan Hanson and Maren Brynildson, also natives of Norway. To this union the following children have been born: Anna, who resides at home; Carl, who married Esther Beckman, is employed in a store in Pelican Rapids; Emil and Albert, who are living on the home farm; Thea, the wife of Edward Elefson, who is living in North Dakota; Emma, who married Adolph Erickson and resides in North Dakota; Henry, who remains at home; Hilda, the wife of Alfred Peckham, of Roseau county, Minnesota; Alma, who resides on the home place.

By her first marriage, Mrs. Ekstam reared two sons: Gabriel, a farmer in Scambler township, who married Olena Hanson, and Julius, who married Eldora Cowles, and who resides in Canada, where he follows the occupation of farming.

FRANK W. DANIELSON.

From far-away Sweden Frank W. Danielson came when a young man of twenty-six, to seek prosperity in a wider field than that afforded by his native land. The fact that here he has established himself and family in a good substantial home surrounded by valuable land which he has acquired, is evidence that when he disembarked on the American shores he was possessed of the dauntless courage, the eager industry and the faith that go to make up the admirable qualities of a self-made man. Mr. Danielson was born in the southern part of Sweden on December 6, 1862.

Daniel Gunderson, the father of the subject of this sketch, was born in Sweden in the year 1837, and his mother, Mary Johnson, was born three years later, and in that country they grew up and were married. The father, a farmer and landowner, is still living. His wife died in 1911. Their eight children are as follow: Charles, a section boss living in Sweden; Frank W., whose name heads this article; John, a section boss residing in Stockholm; Edward, a Minneapolis blacksmith; Samuel, a farmer living about four miles west of Wadena, Minnesota; Olricha, who married a Swedish farmer; Emma, who married a soldier and lives in Sweden, and Annie, the wife of a Swedish farmer.

Frank Danielson, as a preparation for his after life, like many other boys born in that locality, had only limited educational advantages, but of these he made the most. His early days were spent in the school and on the farm, and in 1888 he joined some friends in Minneapolis and lived there for three years. His next home was in Montana, where he worked

in a copper smelter for seven years. Desiring to become more settled in his habits and life, in 1898 he returned to Minnesota, and in July bought one hundred and twenty acres in Elmo township, Otter Tail county, and this has been his home ever since. Taking what was practically unimproved land, its only building being a log house, the owner remodeled this, adding bedrooms and kitchen as well as clearing the farm of timber until now he has forty or fifty acres cleared, the remainder consisting of pastures and hay meadows. Besides this he has rented land in the neighborhood, in which he is recognized as a capable and successful general farmer.

In 1895 Frank W. Danielson was united in marriage to Annie Sherblum, a native of Finland, but born of Swedish parents. The children born of this union are: Beda; Lorency, who lives at Moorhead; Axel Alovick; Grace, who died in 1914; Harry and Everett.

Mrs. Danielson has had the qualities necessary for a hard-working pioneer farmer's wife, and has shared her husband's hardships and work, as well as his joys and sorrows. Both are members of the Presbyterian church at Elmora. In politics, Mr. Danielson is a Republican. His toil and virile energy have brought him the success for which he planned, and because of his kindly disposition and upright life he is among the most highly respected farmers of the vicinity in which his home is situated.

FRANK NELSON.

Frank Nelson, a well-known farmer of Clitherall township, Otter Tail county, was born in the southern part of Sweden, November 27, 1845, and is a son of Nels and Elsie (Okeson) Nelson. Mr. Nelson's parents spent their entire lives in their native land of Sweden. Mr. Nelson's father was a farmer and landowner. He was born in 1804 and died in 1851. Mr. Nelson's mother was born in 1808 and died in 1869. Both were members of the Lutheran church, and reared a family of eight children, as follow: Oke, born in 1826; Nels, born in 1827; John, a farmer of Clitherall township, was born in 1831; Peter, who died in Clitherall township in 1913, was born in 1833; Bernt, born in 1836; Hahban, who was the wife of Nels Madis, was born in 1839, and died in Denmark; Lewis, who died at the age of seventeen, was born in 1842.

Frank Nelson was educated in the public schools of his native land and was reared on his father's farm. When he was old enough he engaged in farming, and in 1869 came to America on a steamship. Upon his arrival in the United States, he settled first at Litchfield, Minnesota, where for a time he worked on a railroad. Frank was the first member of the Nelson family who came to America. In 1871 he removed to Otter Tail county and homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of land in section 29, of

Clitherrall township. The farm was heavily timbered at the time Mr. Nelson purchased it, and it was necessary to clear this land before crops could be raised. In the meantime he erected a log house, which has since been destroyed. For about twenty years after coming to America, Mr. Nelson was engaged in clearing and improving his land, and his farm is now in good condition, and he has occupied it ever since his removal to this county. He is a general farmer and stockman, and has been most successful in his operations.

In 1875 Frank Nelson was married to Annie Peterson, who died in 1886, leaving four children: Leonard, who is a clerk in a hardware store in Clitherrall; Joseph, a farmer living in Dakota; Oscar, who lives at home, works on neighboring farms; Emily, who died in 1905.

In 1887 Mr. Nelson was married to Hannah Peterson, and to this union have been born eight children: Agnes, the wife of Richard L. Gilles; George, who is a telegraph operator at Black River Falls, Wisconsin; while five children, Eddie, Harry, Arthur, Esther and Ernest, are living at home with their parents. John, another child, died in infancy.

Mr. Nelson has always voted the Republican ticket since coming to the United States. He and his family are earnest and devoted members of the Swedish Lutheran church of Eagle Lake township, and take an active interest in religious affairs, and contribute liberally to the support of the church.

OLE J. SLETTEDE

Ole J. Slette, an upholsterer by trade, is well known to the people of Fergus Falls, this county, where he enjoys the confidence of a host of friends and a large patronage. He was born in Norway on November 28, 1850, the son of John and Kari (Horten) Slette, members of two good old Norwegian families.

Ole J. Slette emigrated to America in 1880, when he was twenty-one years old, in company with his brother, Ole. They came West, first locating at Chicago, where they remained for a time, doing odd jobs, but in 1883 Ole J. Slette came to Minnesota, settling in Fergus Falls, where for eight months he was employed in the furniture store owned by H. Buturi. Afterwards Mr. Slette established a furniture repair shop on his own account. This shop was located on Lincoln avenue, west, and there he remained until the casket factory was established and started business. Mr. Slette accepted a position as cloth coverer with the casket company, and this occupation he followed for six years, after which he returned to his trade of upholstering and repairing. His business was then located in his



OLE J. SLETTEFDE.

storage rooms at 201 Bismark avenue, west, and it is there that he has built up his present prosperous business.

Mr. Slettede married Mathilda Thoreson, who has borne him two children, Hilma, a teacher at Underwood, and James H., who is associated with his father in the furniture repair business. James H. Slettede married Verdetta M. Waller, a native of Illinois, and they have one child, Cessarine June.

Of Mr. Slettede it may be said truthfully that he is one of the best-known men in Otter Tail county. He is known for his kindness, his geniality and his admirable intelligence. Being a great reader and a deep thinker, he is a most interesting conversationalist and no one may leave him, after having spent an hour or two, without feeling that he has learned something. Mr. Slettede's religious views are tolerant in the extreme. He believes that all religious organizations perform a good purpose, and he unqualifiedly gives his support to all of them.

FERDINAND ZUEHLKE.

Ferdinand Zuehlke, a native of Prussia, Germany, was born on October 4, 1851. The parents of the subject of this sketch, Frederick and Caroline (Pomeranke) Zuehlke, were also natives of Prussia, where they were married, and from which country they and their six children came to America in 1866, and made their home in Pittsburgh. There Mr. Zuehlke was engaged in the blacksmith trade for thirteen years. In 1879 he took his family to Chickasaw county, Iowa, where he farmed until 1881. They then took up a homestead claim in this county, becoming possessors of a farm of one hundred and sixty acres on Stony creek, the place being thickly covered with brush and timber. Living in a log house, hastily and rudely constructed, he began to clear his land, but was not able to finish his task, for in 1884 he died. Five years later his wife passed away. Both were devoted members of the Lutheran church. Their children, all of whom were born in Germany, were six in number. Florentine became the wife of Fred Voos, of Philadelphia, and later died in Chicago. Theresa married William Redeman, and died in Washington state. The third child is the subject of this sketch. Adolph is employed in a cracker factory in Minneapolis. Bertha is Mrs. George Roehm, of Parkers Prairie. Gustav, the youngest, is a laborer in Milwaukee.

Ferdinand Zuehlke attended school in his native land and in Pittsburgh, and engaged in bridge work in this city for eleven and one-half years. Desiring to return to the country and its healthful pursuits, he homesteaded a tract of one hundred and sixty acres, in section 24, Elmo

township, this county, first building a crude log cabin on the thickly timbered land. A later addition, also built of logs, was added, this being fourteen by sixteen feet in dimensions. While this structure is still standing, it is not used as a residence, for in 1905 Mr. Zuehlke built a modern frame house. He now has forty-one acres of land cleared and is successful as a general farmer.

Ferdinand Zuehlke's marriage to Caroline Schneider took place in 1872. His wife is a Prussian by birth and a daughter of Frederick and Eleanora (Dilg) Schneider. Mr. and Mrs. Schneider came to America in 1860 and made their home in Pittsburgh and Mr. Schneider was employed as a laborer in Pittsburgh, where they settled. They later lived in Rochester, Pennsylvania, where he died in June, 1885, and his wife died two years later while living with her son-in-law, Ferdinand, in this county.

To Mr. and Mrs. Zuehlke were born nine children, as follow: Fred, the first born, died at the age of seven; Louis lived in Buffalo, New York; Herman is a farmer in Elmo township; Hattie became the wife of John Cameron, who lives in Calgary, Canada; Christopher lives at home; Elnora died in infancy; a child, who followed her, died unmarried; Albert operates the home farm and other rented land; Florentine is a clerk employed in a store in Detroit, Michigan.

Mr. Zuehlke has been painstaking and persistent in his work, undaunted by the problems presented to every pioneer, and sturdy and faithful in every duty. He has made for himself and his family a place in the community, which it will be an honor for his children to retain and hand down. He and his wife have many friends here.

GILBERT MOEN.

Gilbert Moen, a well-known farmer of Sverdrup township, this county, is a native of Norway, where he was born on July 5, 1862. Mr. Moen is a son of Helge and Kari (Skatebo) Moen, both of whom died in Norway. Helge Moen and wife were the parents of a large family of children, among whom were Even, Erik, Kari, Gilbert, Christ, Halvor, Ole and Knut, besides two who died early in life.

Gilbert Moen received his education in the public schools of his native land, and when he was twenty years old, in 1882, made the voyage to America and settled eventually in Sverdrup township, this county. Five years after coming to the United States, Mr. Moen was able to purchase one hundred and twelve acres of land, and on this tract he has since lived. He has greatly increased the value of this place by the addition of many important and substantial improvements.

In 1887 Gilbert Moen was married to Marit J. Roble, who is a native

of Norway, born in 1865, and to this union have been born five children, Henry, John, Clara, Minnie and Edward.

Mr. and Mrs. Moen and family are all earnest and faithful members of the Lutheran church. Mr. Moen is independent in politics. He has served as school treasurer in Sverdrup township, and here where he has lived for the past twenty-five years, is well known and is a highly-respected citizen of the township, and is especially popular in the neighborhood where he has lived for so many years.

ANDREW J. ANDERSON.

Born in Moore county, Minnesota, January 30, 1868, Andrew J. Anderson is the son of Johanna and Synneve (Olsen) Anderson, both of whom were born in Norway, the former in 1831 and the latter in 1842.

Mr. Anderson's parents came to America in 1867 and settled in Moore county, Minnesota. The next year they emigrated to Otter Tail county, making the journey from Moore to Otter Tail county with an ox-team. After homesteading one hundred and sixty acres in Aurdal township, where their son, Andrew J., now lives, they set to work to clear the land and to improve it. At the time the land was obtained it was covered with heavy timber. Here Mr. Anderson's father died in 1911. His mother had died fifteen years previously, in 1896. They had three children, of whom Andrew J. was the eldest, Gustina and Hannah being the other two children. Mr. Anderson's parents were prominent in the Lutheran church of this community.

Andrew J. Anderson was reared on the old homestead farm and educated in the public schools of this county. His first teacher was Haldor Boen. Mr. Anderson attended school in pioneer times, when the educational facilities were considerably more limited than they are at the present time. When the Andersons came to Otter Tail county, Minnesota, Mr. Anderson's father had only two cows, two calves and a half interest in a wagon.

Some years ago Mr. Anderson purchased his father's farm. He now owns two hundred and sixty acres of land. In 1908 he built a new barn and, after it has been destroyed by a tornado in 1912, it was replaced by another barn.

On October 26, 1898, Andrew J. Anderson was married to Louisa Fossen, who was born in Goodhue county in 1867, and who is the daughter of Jens and Christina Fossen, who settled in Goodhue county in 1864, after emigrating to this country from Norway. They moved to Otter Tail county about 1870 and took a homestead farm in Dane Prairie township. Both are still living. Mrs. Anderson's father is now eighty-three years old and her

mother is eighty-five. They had a large family of children, of whom three, Lawrence, Louise and Hans are deceased. The living children are Ole, Louisa, John, Gurena and Mikkell.

Mr. and Mrs. Andrew J. Anderson have three children, Julius, born on October 30, 1899; Sophia, October 29, 1901, and Arthur, April 25, 1903.

Mr. Anderson has never been active in politics, but he has always been interested in educational affairs and has been, for a number of years, a member of the local school board.

OLE O. VIDNESS.

Ole O. Vidness, who is a prosperous farmer of Everts township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, was born on December 24, 1853, in Norway, and is the son of Ole Christiansen and Christina Johnson, both of whom were born in Norway and who spent their entire lives in their native land. They were the parents of four children: Julia, Ole O., Thea and Mena.

Ole O. Vidness was educated in the public schools of Norway. In 1880 he emigrated to Otter Tail county, Minnesota, and took a homestead of ninety-two acres in section 30, of Everts township. Here he made many improvements and now has a commodious barn and a comfortable residence.

Ole O. Vidness was married, in Norway, to Anetta Sletner, the daughter of Andrew Sletner, who is mentioned elsewhere in this work. To this marriage there were born six children: Oscar, Caroline, Christ, Julia, John and Alfred. Mrs. Vidness died in 1888, and, two years later, Mr. Vidness was married to Lena Johnson, who was born in Wisconsin and who is the daughter of Johannes Johnson, who came from Norway to Wisconsin and later to Otter Tail county, Minnesota, where he spent his last days.

Mr. and Mrs. Ole O. Vidness and family are well-known members of the Lutheran church in Everts township. They take a prominent part in all public matters and are among the leading citizens of this township.

JOHN M. VAGLO.

Among the leading farmers of Erhards Grove township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, is John M. Vaglo, who was born in Norway on January 20, 1853, the son of Olaus L. and Nicolena Vaglo, both of whom were natives of Norway. Olaus Vaglo came to America in 1882, and located in Otter Tail county, where he lived until his death, in 1914. Nicolena, the wife of the elder Vaglo, died on February 17, 1893. Olaus and Nicolena Vaglo were the parents of five children, Ludwig, John M., Anna, Ellen and Johanna, all of whom are living.

John M. Vaglo was educated in the schools of his native land, after which he came to America in 1880, and located in Fillmore county, Minnesota, where he lived for two years and then moved to Fargo, North Dakota. One year later John M. Vaglo returned to Minnesota and came to Pelican Rapids, where he worked as a carpenter and also as a millwright for some time. In 1885 Mr. Vaglo bought sixty acres of land in section 4, Erhards Grove township, a place which he has improved and to which he has added land until now he cultivates one hundred and twenty acres of choice land in the community.

During the year 1888 John M. Vaglo was married to Josefa Dahl, who was born in Norway in the year 1862, and to this marriage have been born two children, Katie Nemina and Alma Olina.

John M. Vaglo is well known in public life and in political circles, having served his township on the board of supervisors for a term of five years; has been a member of the school board for fifteen years, and has been a candidate for some of the higher offices of the community.

FREDERICK EUGENE BURLINGAME.

Born in Madison county, New York, August 15, 1865, Frederick Eugene Burlingame is the son of James Alden and Melvina (Palmiter) Burlingame, both of whom were born in New York state, and who came to Wisconsin in 1874. Some years later they emigrated to Otter Tail county, Minnesota, where Mr. Burlingame's father died on December 6, 1914. His mother had died many years previously, April 10, 1892. There were three children in the Burlingame family: Frederick E., the subject of this review, is the eldest; Franklin, the second born, and Minnie, the youngest child, who is the wife of S. M. Wright, of Deer Creek, Minnesota.

Frederick E. Burlingame was reared on a farm and received his education in the common schools of Markesan, Green Lake county, Wisconsin. After finishing his educational training, Mr. Burlingame worked as a painter and decorator for twelve years. He then engaged in farming and in 1899 purchased one hundred and twenty acres of land in Inman township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota. Here he carries on a general system of farming and stock raising, and has made many substantial improvements on this place since acquiring it. All but one acre of the farm he has cleared, and his buildings are modern and up-to-date and his farm is well equipped for stock raising.

On March 5, 1891, Frederick E. Burlingame was married to Lizzie Mattocks, a native of Iowa, who was born on August 13, 1871. She was a daughter of W. R. and Phoebe (Conner) Mattocks, both of whom died at Deer Creek, Minnesota, within one year. They had come to Otter Tail

county, Minnesota, from Iowa. They settled in Oak Valley township on two hundred and eighty acres of well-improved land, comprising one of the best farms of Oak Valley township.

Mr. and Mrs. Frederick E. Burlingame were the parents of three children, Cecil, Clifford and Harland. The mother of these children died on May 29, 1906, and on June 11, 1907, Mr. Burlingame was married, secondly, to Jeanne Johnson, who was born in Deer Creek, Minnesota, in 1882, and who is a daughter of Jacob and Marion (Binnie) Johnson, of Deer Creek. By this second marriage there have been born three children, Gordon, Marland and Gladys.

The Burlingame family are well-known, enterprising farmers. Mr. Burlingame has always been an industrious and hardworking man, and his success in life is due almost wholly to his own unaided efforts, and he has a host of friends in the neighborhood where he lives.

HANS STANER HANSON.

Hans Staner Hanson, a farmer of Henning, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, is now a well-to-do man and is well known throughout the county where he has lived for many years.

Mr. Hanson was born on January 3, 1852, in Norway, and is the son of Staner and Kingnald (Larsen) Hanson, both of whom were natives of Norway. Mr. Hanson's parents came to America and settled at Madison, Wisconsin, in 1856. Four years later they moved to Albert Lea, Minnesota, and there purchased a pre-emption of one hundred and sixty acres of land, where Mr. Hanson's father died. They were the parents of seven children, two of whom, Louis and an infant, are deceased. The living children are Mary, Hans Staner, Ole, Anna and Richard.

Hans Staner Hanson was four years old when the family settled in the state of Wisconsin. He attended school in Dane county, Wisconsin, and at Albert Lea and later took up farming. Subsequently, he moved to Crookston, Polk county, Minnesota, and purchased three hundred and twenty acres of railroad land, which he sold in 1870. At this time he returned to St. Croix county, Wisconsin, and in 1881 came to Otter Tail county, Minnesota, and purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land in section 16, of Henning township. After a time he sold this farm and moved to Girard township, where he purchased three hundred and sixty acres. For the next sixteen years he lived in Girard township, but this farm was sold in 1898, at which time Mr. Hanson moved to Henning. He now owns two hundred acres of land, one hundred and sixty acres of which is located within the corporation limits of the town of Henning. Having rebuilt his house, Mr. Hanson has a splendid residence. He has a barn, sixty by twenty-six feet,

with two sheds, eighteen by sixty and fifteen by sixty. Hans Staner Hanson has always been prominent as a stockman. He is secretary and manager of the Henning Farmers Creamery Association and has held other positions of trust and responsibility.

In 1892 Hans S. Hanson was married to Helena Bogan, who was born at Christiania, Norway, in 1862. Mrs. Hanson's father died in Norway and, after his death, her mother came to America and settled in Otter Tail county. She spent her last days in Baker county, Minnesota. Mr. and Mrs. Hans S. Hanson have been the parents of five children: Staner, Louis, Stella, Hannah and Henry, all of whom are living and reside at home with their father. Their mother died in 1904.

Mr. Hanson has bought and sold considerable land in Otter Tail county, Minnesota. He has been president of the village of Henning and is now president of the local school board. He has served in this capacity for the past seven years.

STILLMAN HALVORSON.

Stillman Halvorson, who is one of the most extensive farmers of Nidaros township, this county, was born on the farm he now owns and which is located in section 33, of Nidaros township, February 21, 1873. Mr. Halvorson is the son of Even and Ingeborg Halvorson, both of whom were born in Norway. Mr. Halvorson's father was born in 1836 and his mother in 1843. After their marriage in Norway they came to Freeborn county in 1868, and two years later emigrated to Otter Tail county, taking a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres which their son, Stillman, now owns. Mr. Halvorson now owns fifty acres joining the homestead, also eighty acres in another tract. His father died on this farm in 1885, after having spent a great deal of money in improving the farm. The family were members of the Norwegian Lutheran church. They were the parents of seven children: Anne, Halvor, Carrie, Charley, Stillman, William (deceased) and Sever.

Reared on the old homestead farm of his parents and educated in the public schools of this county, Stillman Halvorson has been engaged in farming and threshing for twenty years. Mr. Halvorson has erected a new house and a good barn on the farm.

In 1900 Stillman Halvorson was married to Hattie Benson, who was born in Leaf Mountain township, Otter Tail county, December 1, 1888. She is the daughter of Nels and Celia Benson, of Leaf Mountain township. Mr. and Mrs. Halvorson have three children, Margaret, Bernice and William.

Mr. and Mrs. Stillman Halvorson are members of the Norwegian Lutheran church of Leaf Mountain township. They not only take a profound interest in religious affairs, but in civic affairs as well. Mr. Halvorson has a host of friends in the community where he lives.

PETER K. PEDERSON

A successful farmer of Sverdrup township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, is Peter K. Pederson, who was born near Manitowoc, Wisconsin, June 7, 1867, and who is the son of Knut and Marit Pederson, mentioned elsewhere in this volume.

Peter K. Pederson was only six months old when he accompanied his parents to southern Minnesota. They settled at Bear creek, in Mower county, and in 1870 emigrated to Otter Tail county and settled in Sverdrup township, where Mr. Pederson has since lived. Some years ago, he, in partnership with his brother, Carl, purchased the old homestead of three hundred and twenty acres and they are engaged in general farming and stock raising. The Pederson brothers keep full-blooded Jersey cattle and other purebred stock and are engaged in the dairy business.

In 1902 Peter K. Pederson was married to Pauline Osander, of Sverdrup township. Mrs. Pederson was born in Norway and is the daughter of Andreas and Gurianna Osander, who came to Otter Tail county from Norway. Mrs. Pederson's father is now deceased. Her mother is still living.

Mr. and Mrs. Peter K. Pederson have four children, Galena, Knut, Edward and Petra.

The family of Peter K. Pederson are all members of the Lutheran church. Mr. and Mrs. Pederson are active in church work. In politics, Mr. Pederson is independent.

IVAR ANDERSON.

Among the well-known farmers and prominent citizens of Maplewood township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, is Ivar Anderson, who was born in Gothenburg, Sweden, on November 24, 1865, the son of Andrew and Katharine Anderson, both of whom were natives of Sweden, the former born in 1830, the latter in 1832. Andrew Anderson came to America in 1870 and settled in Douglas county, Minnesota, where he lived for one year and then moved to Otter Tail county and homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of land in section 14, Maplewood township, a place where he has since lived. Katharine, the wife of Andrew Anderson, died in 1895. Andrew and Katharine Anderson were the parents of two children, Ivar and Axel.

Ivar Anderson was educated in the public schools of Sweden, after

which he became a farmer, buying the home farm of one hundred and sixty acres in Maplewood township, where he engages in general farming and stock raising.

On June 9, 1898, Ivar Anderson was married to Clara Blegen, who was born in Iowa, the daughter of Gilbert A. and Kjersti Blegen, pioneers of Iowa, who later moved to Maplewood township, where they now live. To Ivar and Clara Anderson have been born seven children, Lottie, Arthur, Della, Clifford, Leonard, Arnold and Thelma.

For more than twenty-five years, Ivar Anderson has been a part of the public and official life of Maplewood township, for the whole of his public career having served as treasurer of the township. For some years he served as school treasurer and is now clerk of the school board, having served this office for three years.

ANDREW WAGSTROM.

Andrew Wagstrom, one of the best-known farmers and public men of Maplewood township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, was born in Sweden on February 2, 1849, the son of Swen Olofson and Ingeborg Anderson, both of whom lived and died in their native country of Sweden. Swen Olofson and Ingeborg Anderson were the parents of four children, Claus, Andrew, Johanna and Bejata, all of whom are living.

Andrew Wagstrom, following his education in the schools of his native country, came, in June, 1871, to America, and after a short time in New York City went to St. Paul, Minnesota, where he was employed at railroad work, and later to Minneapolis, at which city he was engaged in lumber work for four years. In 1876 Andrew Wagstrom secured employment on the construction of the Great Northern Railway Company depot at Minneapolis, where he was engaged until the year 1880, when he came to Maplewood township, Otter Tail county, and homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of land in section 10, which place Andrew Wagstrom improved extensively and where he now lives as a general farmer and stock raiser.

During the year 1876 Andrew Wagstrom was married to Clara Redeen, who was born in Sweden, April 6, 1840, and to this marriage have been born the following children, Arthur Edwin, Alma Frances, Harry (deceased), Maud Clarice, Laura Helen, Claus Harry, Olga Axeline, Ellis Rudolph and Herbert Eugene.

Andrew Wagstrom has taken an active part in the public life and official circles of his community, having filled a number of offices with notable efficiency and satisfaction. In 1881 Mr. Wagstrom was elected as constable

of Maplewood township, an office which he served for four years and then he was elected as township supervisor, serving in that capacity for three years, at the end of which time he was made township clerk, a position which he held for eight years. During the year 1898 Andrew Wagstrom was elected to office as a county commissioner for Otter Tail county, serving this office continuously for eight years. Andrew Wagstrom performed a notable service to his community when he organized school district No. 224 in 1887, he after this time, for some years acting as clerk of the school board, an office he now holds. In 1910 Mr. Wagstrom was elected to the office of township supervisor, being made chairman of the board at the same time, an office he has since filled.

As a business man, Andrew Wagstrom has demonstrated his ability, being the organizer of the North Maple Telephone Association, a company in which he has officiated as president since the establishment of the company.

AUGUST W. MEYER.

August W. Meyer, the son of John and Mary (Leiferman) Meyer, was born on June 25, 1873, in Carver county, Minnesota. The parents were natives of Germany, the father being born in Prussia, on the Rhine, August 29, 1829, and the mother was born in Westfall, Germany, on December 17, 1837.

John Meyer, on coming to the United States in 1856, located in Wisconsin, where he remained for two years, after which he came to Minnesota, where he entered a claim. In August, of the same year, he returned to Wisconsin, where he married Mary Leiferman, and they came to their home in Minnesota on October 21, where they resided until their retirement, in 1895, when they took up their residence in Watertown, where Mr. Meyer died, November 23, 1904. Mrs. Meyer, who came to America with her father, brothers and sister, in 1856, and settled near Madison, Wisconsin, survived her husband some years, having died on April 9, 1909. Mr. and Mrs. Meyer were the parents of the following children: John, Jennie, Henry, Frank, Casper, Albert and August. Mr. Meyer was a soldier of the Civil War, having enlisted on August 12, 1864, and received his honorable discharge on July 14, 1865. He was a member of Company B, in a Minnesota regiment, and was a brave and worthy soldier during his entire enlistment.

Henry Leiferman, the father of Mrs. August W. Meyer, was born on December 17, 1837, in Westphalia, Germany, and emigrated to Dane county, Wisconsin, where he entered land and remained for some years, after which he removed to Waseca county, near Alma City, where he engaged in farm-

ing for nine years. He then moved to Beauford township, Blue Earth county, and purchased the farm on which he died on June 6, 1914. Mr. and Mrs. Leiferman were the parents of eleven children, as follow: Henry, William, John, Katherine, Frank, Joseph, Elizabeth, George, Sophia, Leo and Mary.

August W. Meyer, whose education was limited to the common schools of Carver county, worked for a time in Minneapolis, where he was engaged in the meat business. In the fall of 1898 he came to Dent, where he entered his present farm, December 18, 1898. The place was covered with heavy timber and with no buildings. He at once began the erection of a small shanty on his one hundred and eighty-eight acres of land, preparatory to the coming of his bride the next spring, he being married to Elizabeth Leiferman, March 14, 1899. Much work was accomplished by Mr. Meyer during the fall and winter in the erection of his little house and the clearing of some of the land. The original home was the home of the family until 1900, when the present residence was built, the barn being erected in 1912. Mr. Meyer does general farming and is an extensive breeder of full-blooded Holstein cattle, his stock being some of the best in the section.

Mr. and Mrs. Meyer have a pleasant country home, well kept and a pleasing place to rear their family of four children: Hazel, Henrietta, Glenn Alvin and Jennetta Elizabeth. Mr. Meyer and family are members of the Catholic church. Mr. Meyer is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Modern Woodmen of America. He has also been school clerk for the past six years, giving most general satisfaction, as he is a man of broad views and takes the utmost interest in the education of the children of his district.

OLE HANSON.

Ole Hanson, a prosperous farmer of Nidaros township, this county, is a native of Sweden, where he was born on May 7, 1858, and was educated in the public schools of that country. He is one of seven children born to his parents: Andrew (deceased), Peter, Ole, Magnus, Nels, Anna and Johanna (deceased). Mr. Hanson's father died in 1870 and his mother in 1901. Both lived in Sweden all of their lives.

In 1888 Mr. Hanson came to America and, for several years, rented land in Otter Tail county. In 1901 he purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land in section 34, of Nidaros township. From year to year he made improvements on the farm and, in 1914, erected a substantial residence. His buildings are all kept in a high state of repair and are all well painted. He is a general farmer and stockman and is one of the well-known citizens in the community where he lives.

In 1892 Ole Hanson was married to Kjerstin Lindahl, who was born in Sweden on July 1, 1863, and who is the daughter of Bengt and Anna (Miller) Lindahl, both of whom died in Sweden. Mr. and Mrs. Hanson have been the parents of six children, Nanna Marie (deceased), Helmer Bernard, Otto Adolph, Anna Marie, Hugo and Gerda.

Mr. and Mrs. Ole Hanson are members of the Eagle Lake Swedish Lutheran church. They take an active interest in religious affairs as well as in all civic matters.

HANS MADSEN.

Hans Madsen, who is one of the older citizens of Otter Tail township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, and one of its most successful farmers, was born in Denmark, September 2, 1840.

Mr. Madsen's father and mother were both natives of Denmark. His father, Mads Hanson, was married three times, Hans Madsen's mother being Anna Rasmussen. Mr. Madsen's paternal grandfather was Hans Madsen, a native of Denmark, who was a day laborer and who spent all of his life in his native land. He was a member of the Lutheran church. Mads Hanson, the father of Hans Madsen, was a soldier in the Danish army and a day laborer. He and his wife were members of the Lutheran church. Hans Madsen, the subject of this sketch, is a son by his father's third wife, and in this family there were three children, Rasmus, Lewis and Hans.

Hans Madsen was educated in the common schools of his native land. In 1878 he came to America and, after landing in New York City came direct to Perham, in Otter Tail county, Minnesota, purchasing one hundred and nineteen acres of land in this county in 1885. The land was bought from C. J. Wright, of Fergus Falls, for seven dollars per acre. The farm at that time was wholly unimproved and consisted merely of wild land. Mr. Madsen now owns one hundred and sixty acres, most of which has been cleared and which has been very greatly improved within recent years.

On December 19, 1888, Hans Madsen was married to Anna Olson, who was born in Norway, August 15, 1859. She came to America in 1883. By this marriage there have been born two children, Arthur, born on July 15, 1895, and Minnie, November 4, 1897, both of whom live at home with their parents.

Mr. and Mrs. Hans Madsen and family are members of the Methodist Episcopal church. They belong to that class of substantial citizens who have made Otter Tail county what it is today, one of the most productive counties in the state of Minnesota. Mr. Madsen has a host of friends in Otter Tail township.

HERBERT S. ALDRICH.

Herbert S. Aldrich, the son of John H. and Anjanette (Stinson) Aldrich, was born on December 2, 1861, at Centralia, Woods county, Wisconsin.

The father of Mr. Aldrich was a native of New York, having been born there in 1830. His wife was born in Bangor, Maine, but they met and married in Grand Rapids, Wisconsin, and after their marriage lived first in Waukesha, Wisconsin. After a brief residence in Winona, Minnesota, they returned to Wisconsin, where for a time they lived in Centralia. They then returned to Minnesota, where they took up their residence in Woodland, Martin county. John Aldrich was by trade a blacksmith and carpenter and was for the period of nine or ten years head sawyer in Wisconsin saw-mills. While a resident of Martin county he engaged in farming in the summers and blacksmithing in the winters, this continuing for four years.

In 1874 John H. Aldrich homesteaded a claim of eighty acres in section 2, of Woodside township, this county, arriving here on July 3, and before the month was out had secured a squatter's right. In August, 1878, he took out filing papers for this property. At that time almost the entire township was a wilderness, there being only three or four settlers here. In true pioneer fashion, Mr. Aldrich constructed a rude log cabin, in which he started a small store for the accommodation of the neighborhood, which, in connection with his farming, was to be his source of livelihood. He set to work to break and cultivate the soil and later purchased eighty acres additional, after which he began a mercantile career and was appointed postmaster at Wrightstown. He enlarged his business, later adding more floor space by building a new house. He lived here, however, only four years and four months, when he died, at the age of forty-nine, this taking place in the year 1879. Mr. Aldrich, Sr., had completed the process of homesteading in the year of his death. He had the distinction of being one of the organizers of this township and of being its first clerk. After his death his wife closed out the store business and postoffice in favor of Mr. Dere Newell, who built a store and started up a business on the old homestead, by leasing a one-acre tract to build on.

Mr. Aldrich and his wife were members of the Baptist church while residing in Wisconsin. His wife, Anjanette Aldrich, married again, her second husband being John S. Flint, and they lived in this vicinity for two years, when Mr. Flint died. Several years after his death, his wife married Amos Bacon, and he died within two years after their marriage. She died in Bertha, Todd county, Minnesota, on November 25, 1914, at the age of seventy-four.

Herbert S. Aldrich is one of eight children, the others being, Plyna, a resident of Battle Lake, engaged in the garage business; Edgar, a merchant living in Aldrich, Minnesota; Willie died in infancy, in Winona, Minnesota; Glenn R. is a general merchant living in Almora; Belle died in infancy; Guy passed away when less than one year of age; Clara is Mrs. Alfred Naylor, of Bertha.

Herbert S. Aldrich was able to acquire only a limited education, owing to the necessity for work at home. For two years he was a pupil in the Martin county district school, the term consisting, however, only of three-month winter seasons and in summer he was obliged to herd cattle. After Mr. Aldrich became a resident of Otter Tail county he attended two summer terms of school of two months each. From his fifteenth to his nineteenth year he was a farm laborer, working much of the time away from home, still helping, however, in the management of the home farm. This continued until his twenty-second year, when he married and purchasing eighty acres one-half mile from his home, began his own independent career.

Mr. Aldrich lived on his farm for four years, when his wife, who was before her marriage, Jennie Cameron, died, leaving a daughter. For the next two years Mr. Aldrich continued to work in the woods in the winters and was employed in various saw-mills in the summer time and in threshing at Wrightstown, meantime making his home with his aged mother. About 1891 he purchased a part interest in the store then owned by Jerry Newell. Later, Mr. Aldrich, with three others, bought out Mr. Newell, and the business was continued under the firm name of Aldrich, Cameron & Company. This partnership lasted for two years, when Mr. Aldrich, selling out his saw-mill and threshing interests, bought out his three partners. Soon after this transaction he sold one-half of his interest to his brother, Edgar D. Aldrich, and the firm became known as Aldrich Brothers until January 1, 1896, when Mr. Aldrich became the sole owner, continuing in possession until the present time. The stock at the time of Mr. Aldrich's first purchase was placed in a building whose dimensions were sixteen by twenty-four feet. The store is now forty by forty-four feet, with storage space twelve by forty feet. From a stock worth two hundred and seventy-five dollars at the time it was purchased from Mr. Newell it has increased in value to a sum all the way from eight thousand to nine thousand dollars, consisting of groceries, hardware, clothing, shoes, rubbers and farm implements. The business transacted in the year 1914 amounted to more than twenty-three thousand dollars, the handling of which required the services of four clerks.

Mr. Aldrich has never relinquished his interest in farm matters. He has purchased the old homestead, consisting of eighty acres, as well as other

adjoining land, amounting in all to seven hundred and thirty acres, all of which is located in Woodside township. As a stock breeder, Mr. Aldrich specializes in Duroc-Jersey hogs.

On December 16, 1897, Herbert S. Aldrich was united in marriage to Margaret J. Perkins, a native of Todd county. She is the daughter of Edgar A. Perkins, who, with his wife, were pioneers in this section of the state, to which they came from Money creek, Minnesota. He is still living at the ripe old age of seventy-four or over. The home of Mr. and Mrs. Aldrich was blessed by the birth of six children, the eldest of whom is Hazel D., who received her education in the local schools, including the Wadena high school and one term at the St. Cloud Normal. The other children are, in the order of their birth, Myrtle, Paul, Kenneth, Reynold and Luverne.

A Republican in politics, Mr. Aldrich is vitally interested in public affairs. He was for ten years township treasurer and has been a valuable member of the local school board. He and his wife are not only members of the Wrightstown United Brethren church, but they contribute largely to its financial support as well as to its active work. Mr. Aldrich is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America. Not only as a merchant has he become well known and esteemed, but also as a man of sterling qualities. No consideration of expediency can change his determination to follow a certain line of action, having once decided upon its wisdom, and his clean, wholesome life has won for him many friends.

FERDINAND HEEMBROCK.

Ferdinand Heembrock, well-known farmer, of Edna township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, was born in St. Charles county, Missouri, April 29, 1866, the son of Anton and Katherine (Ottomeyer) Heembrock. Anton Heembrock came to America in 1852, and located in Missouri, where he lived as a farmer the remainder of his days, with the exception of two years as a gold miner and as a mine owner in the state of California. Anton and Katherine Heembrock were the parents of six children: Mary, John, Ferdinand, Anna, Anton and Joseph. Anton and Mary (Goedde) Heembrock (his second wife) were the parents of the following children: Agnes, Anton, Theodore, Henry, Elizabeth, Dorothea, Pauline, Stephen, Bernard, Clemence, Mary and Herman.

Ferdinand Heembrock was educated in the schools of St. Charles county, Missouri, after which, in 1881, he came to Minnesota and located in Perham, near where he was employed on farms until 1888, when he bought eighty-five acres of land, to which he later added eighty-three acres and where he is now engaged in general agricultural pursuits.

In the year 1891 Ferdinand Heembrock was married to Anna C. Altstadt, a native of Perham township, and to this marriage were born the following children: Kate, Mary, Aloysius, Clemence, Rudolph, Hugo, Helen, Leonard, Elenora, Lauretta, Veronica and Agnes. Mr. Heembrock and his family are communicants of the Catholic church. Anna C., the wife of Ferdinand Heembrock, died on December 6, 1911, survived by her husband and eleven children.

Ferdinand Heembrock is affiliated with the German Catholic Aid Society of Minnesota, and in the public life of the township Mr. Heembrock has served efficiently and satisfactorily as township supervisor and as township assessor.

MICHAEL H. FROSLEE.

Among the men of large and various interests in Otter Tail county and in the town of Vining, is Michael H. Froslee, successful farmer and leading business man. A citizen of conspicuous ancestry, a man of splendid intellectual attainments, one who in the affairs of community life has been a leader of thought and a director of public opinion, no work of this kind would be complete without reference to and a proper review of the life and activities of this man.

Michael H. Froslee was born six miles north of Christiana, Norway, on July 25, 1868, the son of Hans and Ingeborg (Gjefsen) Froslee, both of whom lived in Norway all their lives, and where Hans Froslee looked after his extensive interests until he died, at the age of sixty-eight years, on December 9, 1894, his wife, Ingeborg, surviving him until the year 1913, when she died at the age of seventy-seven years.

Hans Froslee was the son of Mons Svinning and Maria Froslee, who, after their marriage, moved to the farm of the Froslee family, where Mons Svinning assumed the name of his wife, and where they lived for the remainder of their days, Mons Svinning Froslee dying in the year 1868, his wife, Maria, having died previously. Mons Froslee was engaged extensively as a farmer in his native land, conducting his farm in a progressive and scientific manner, and being a man of important rank in his home district. To the marriage of Mons and Maria were born four children: Hans, father of the subject of this sketch; Lars, who lived and died on a part of his father's farm, his death occurring during the year 1914; Ingeborg, who married Paul Rakstad, and who died in Norway in the year 1904; and Mary, who married Paul Dahlen, and who died in Norway in the year 1903.

Ingeborg Froslee was the daughter of Andrew and Kari (Klastad) Gjefsen, who lived and died in the same community as the Froslee family. Andrew Gjefsen was interested in three or four feed mills and a distillery in



MR. AND MRS. MICHAEL H. FROSLEE.

his native land, as well as having been the owner of a nail and spike factory. He also was the owner of great land interests, on which land he was a raiser of cattle, as well as an extensive follower of general agricultural pursuits. Andrew Gjefsen died in the year 1882, his wife, Kari, surviving him until the year 1885. To the marriage of Andrew and Kari Gjefsen were born the following children: Margaret, who married Brede Gjefsen, and who lived and died in Norway; Kjersti, who married Bent Horn, and who died in Norway; Ingeborg, mother of the subject of this sketch; and Martha, who married Iver Svinning, and who died at Sundbakken.

Andrew Gjefsen, maternal grandfather of the subject of this sketch, was the son of Ivor Stadstad, a well-known farmer in his community. He was the father of four children: Andrew, grandfather of Michael Froslee; Lars, who assumed the name of Rustad; Ingeborg, who married Thorsten Svinning; and Margaret, who married Lars Hvalby.

Maria Froslee, the paternal grandmother of the subject of this sketch, was born on a farm in Flatla and was married to Lars Froslee, who was "wakmaster," a local government officer of Norway, having to do with the military and postal service of his locality. Maria Froslee was one of fifteen children. Hans Froslee, father of Michael Froslee, was one of the leading farmers of the district in which he lived, being the producer of many superior products, for which he received from his government many awards and prizes in recognition of his success, and especially for fine horses and cattle. Hans Froslee conducted a creamery on his own land, was a keeper of records dealing with his cream and milk and was generally known as a farmer who in the conduct of his agricultural life followed closely along scientific lines.

Michael H. Froslee was educated in the academic course of his native land, a course similar to that taught in the high schools of America, and after finishing his schooling, during which time he studied four different languages, he became a clerk in a store for three years. In the year 1892 he came to America and landed at New York city, and from there went to Vining, Minnesota, reaching this place on January 11. At Vining, Michael Froslee entered the general merchandise store of Froslee Brothers, as a partner with Thorwald H. Froslee, his brother, until the spring of the year 1901, when Michael Froslee purchased the interest of Thorwald Froslee and conducted the store as sole proprietor until 1910. He then disposed of his interests and for the next three years devoted his time to the care of his wife, whose poor health resulted in Mr. Froslee going with his wife to Norway and there placing her in the hands of specialists, but without avail, for Mrs. Froslee died on June 5, 1912.

In August, 1912, Mr. Froslee returned to America and cared for his land interests until 1913, when he erected a new store building, which, with a general stock of merchandise, he opened on February 5, 1914, where he has been engaged in business ever since. In addition to his merchandise business, Michael H. Froslee is the owner of two farms, on which land he is the overseer of general farming and stock raising pursuits. Since coming to America, Mr. Froslee has visited his home land on four occasions, at one time journeying as far north as Trondhjem and Nortcap, the farthest point north in Norway. He was present at the coronation of King Haakon, and during the same summer he became acquainted with Ranghild Rustad, a second cousin, to whom, after returning to America, he was married, on November 29, 1906, in Rousseau, Minnesota, at the home of Dr. Christian Jelsrup, with whom she lived previously. Subsequently, Michael H. Froslee made a trip to Norway in the interest of his wife's health and after returning to America to care for business interests, Mr. Froslee again, in 1912, went to Norway, at which time he was called on to bear the death of his wife. To Michael H. and Ranghild Froslee were born two children: Hans M., who was born on September 16, 1907, and Raunag Margaret, April 26, 1909.

Michael H. Froslee, as one of the leading citizens of Vining, has served his town and county well, both in private life and in the office of chairman of the town board. Mr. Froslee has been active in all those things for the promotion of town and county interests, and has given much in the way of time and means to the community affairs. In politics, Michael H. Froslee is a Republican. He has been president for two years of the local society of the Sons of Norway and has held all the offices of this organization. Mr. Froslee is a member of the Lutheran church at Vining.

OSCAR F. WILSON.

Oscar F. Wilson, a prosperous farmer of Tordenskjold township, this county, was born on November 25, 1861, near Aalborg, Jutland, in Denmark, and is the son of Jens H. and Christine (Graveson) Wilson, both of whom were natives of Denmark. Jens H. Wilson, who is still living at the age of ninety years, was a farmer during his active life and, by his marriage to Christine Graveson, who died in Denmark, had eight children, five of whom are living.

Oscar F. Wilson was educated in the public schools of his native land and in the high school. He learned the gardener's trade and in 1882 came to America alone, settling in Wisconsin. Afterward he moved to Minneapolis and followed his trade until he came to Otter Tail county with his brother, Christ. After coming to Otter Tail county, Mr. Wilson purchased

a farm of one hundred and fourteen acres in section 16, of Tordenskjold township. There were no improvements upon the land and it was necessary to clear the land before a crop could be raised. Mr. Wilson erected buildings on the farm and lived upon it until 1897, when he sold out and moved to Underwood, where he operated a feed store for six years, a part of the time for his brother, Nils, and later for himself. In 1903 he moved to the Nelson farm, owned by his mother-in-law, in Tordenskjold township, and has managed this farm ever since. In 1912 Mr. Wilson purchased lot 7, in section 11, of Tordenskjold township, a tract of thirty-five acres, which land is now cultivated by a tenant. Mr. Wilson is engaged in general farming and stock raising and has made a specialty of raising Chester White hogs.

On March 26, 1900, Oscar F. Wilson was married to Mary Jensen, who died on July 15, 1900, without issue. Mr. Wilson was married, secondly, on September 2, 1902, to Jensena Maria Henriksen, the daughter of Jens Peter and Anna Marie (Nelsen) Henriksen and the granddaughter of Anders and Annie Jens (Datter) Nelsen. Mrs. Jensena Maria Wilson died on June 13, 1903. To them was born one son, Jens Frederick, who was born on May 29, 1903, and who died on October 4, 1909.

Mrs. Wilson's grandfather, Anders Nelsen, was born in Denmark, in Skilby, near Raskilde, September 16, 1829, and died on May 5, 1909. He was the son of Nels and Annie Maria (Petersen) Petersen, who had four children, three of whom remained in Denmark. Anders Nelsen was a blacksmith by trade, and in 1871 came to America, bringing with him his wife and three children. They landed in Portland, Maine, on July 15, 1871, and lived there for two years, where Mr. Nelsen worked at the blacksmith's trade for a company in Portland. In 1873 he emigrated to Otter Tail county, Minnesota, homesteading a farm of one hundred and thirty acres in Tordenskjold township. This tract of land was located in section 12, on the shores of Fish lake, which Mr. Nelsen named. The land was not improved and Mr. Nelsen erected a log house and a log barn, living here until his death. As time passed he improved the farm and cleared it. Politically, he was a Democrat. He was a member of the Lutheran church.

By the marriage of Anders Nelsen, on August 4, 1853, to Annie Jens Datter, a native of Denmark, and the daughter of Jens Peter, who died on April 3, 1890, there were born three children. Of these three children, Nels Andersen, born on April 12, 1854, who lived in section 11, of this township, married Elsie Christina Petersen, and to them was born one daughter, Anna Marie, who is now Mrs. Ole F. Johnson. Nels Andersen died on January 11, 1900. The second child, Anna Marie, who was born on June 25, 1855, came to America in 1871 and in 1873 married Jens Peter

Henriksen, who died on February 17, 1885, in Maine. Two years later she joined her father in Minnesota. To Mr. and Mrs. Henriksen were born six children, of whom Henry Peter, the eldest, lives with his mother; Anna Christena married Martin Ambuehl on May 25, 1895, and lives near Foston; Jensena Maria was the wife of Oscar F. Wilson; Dorothea Sophia married Olaf Christensen, of Bagley, Minnesota, and died on November 1, 1914; Nellie Andrea died at the age of nine years, on March 2, 1890; Ole Jensen, born on November 10, 1883, died on September 25, 1884. The third child of Anders Nelsen, Anna Katrina, was born on November 25, 1861, married Jens Petersen and lived in Tordenskjold township for a time, but later moved to Wilkin county, where she died on June 23, 1890, leaving two sons, Hans and Henry.

Oscar F. Wilson is a member of the Danish Brotherhood and is identified with the Democratic party in politics. He is a prominent citizen of this county and enjoys the confidence of a host of friends.

CHRISTIAN RODE.

Christian Rode, a retired farmer of Oak Valley township, where he owns two hundred and forty acres of splendid farming land, is a native of Germany, born on January 10, 1846.

Mr. Rode's parents, Halmud and Lottie Rode, were natives of Germany. His mother died when he was still a small lad and his father some years later. Their six children are all deceased, except Christian. The deceased children are John, Henry, Fred, Jacob and Mary.

Christian Rode was educated in the public schools of Germany and, when he was eighteen years old, came to America. After landing in New York City he spent five weeks there and then moved to Dupage county, Illinois, where he worked at the mason's trade for a time. Subsequently, he engaged in farming and, for two years, rented land. In 1874 Mr. Rode purchased a farm of eighty acres in Lee county, Illinois, and there he lived for twenty years. In 1895, however, he emigrated to Otter Tail county, Minnesota, purchasing two hundred and forty acres of land in section 1, of Oak Valley township. This has since been his home. Mr. Rode has erected comfortable and substantial buildings on this farm. These buildings are kept well painted at all times. For the past five years Mr. Rode has been living retired. During his active career he was a general farmer and stockman.

Christian Rode was married on April 28, 1875, in Lee county, Illinois, to Catherine Meyer, who was born in Germany on December 6, 1854, and who is the daughter of John and Mary Meyer, the latter of whom died in Germany in 1862. The former came to Boone county, Illinois, in Decem-

ber, 1867, and, for one year, worked at the trade of a cabinet-maker at Belvidere, Illinois. He died there in 1868, leaving a family of seven children, George, Jacob, Mary, Catherine, Lena, Charles and Caroline.

Mr. and Mrs. Christian Rode have a family of seven children, all of whom are still living. Bertha, Winona, Minerva, John, Maud, Catherine and Gladys.

Although Mr. Rode has long been prominent as a farmer and citizen, he has never aspired to public office. Mr. and Mrs. Rode and their family are members of the Evangelical church and attend the church which stands on their farm. The building was erected in 1898, three years after Mr. and Mrs. Rode and family came to Otter Tail county.

FRED A. FEMLING.

Fred A. Femling, the subject of this sketch, is a native of Adams county, Wisconsin, where he was born on the 16th of June, 1868. His father, John Femling, was born in Mecklenburg, Germany, in 1831, and came to America as a young man and settled in Wisconsin. There he met Sophia Sommers, also a native of Germany, who was born in 1839 and whom he finally married at Whitewater, Wisconsin. The couple went to Wood county, after their marriage, where Mr. Femling bought government land at the rate of a dollar and a quarter an acre. From that locality he went to Worth county, Iowa, where he resided for six years. In 1881 he took a homestead claim on ninety-six acres of land in section 6, of Star Lake township, Otter Tail county. He lived on this farm until 1889, when he passed away. His wife, who is still living, makes her home with her son, Fred, who is the subject of this sketch. She attends the Lutheran church. Among the children reared by Mr. and Mrs. Femling are: Lydia, Mrs. Orlin Rood, who died at the age of fifty-five years; Lizzie, the wife of R. T. Cordes, of Iowa; Sarah, Mrs. William Sutton; Flora, who married Mathew Champlin, of Star Lake township; Emma, Mrs. Henry Madee, who died in Star Lake township; Fred; George died at the age of two years, and Edward died in infancy.

Fred A. Femling attended the common schools of Wisconsin and of Iowa. From the age of fourteen he has assumed the duties of farm life. He owns his farm in Star Lake township and keeps it in an advanced state of improvement. He gives special attention to the breeding of Shorthorn cattle. Mr. Femling is a shareholder in the Farmers Co-operative Creamery Company at Dent and was director of the concern for two years. He is an independent voter and takes an active interest in the affairs of the township. As chairman of the board of supervisors he has served for nine years, and has also acted as school director of the district in which he lives.

On the 21st of March, 1894, the marriage of Fred Femling to Jessie M. Langley was solemnized. She is the daughter of Joseph and Caroline (Nash) Langley, early settlers of Glencoe, Minnesota, where Mrs. Femling was born. Her parents came to Fergus Falls in 1881, where Mrs. Langley died seven years later. Mr. Langley married Mrs. Daisy (Lotton) Giantvalley after the death of his first wife, and moved to Canada, where he has lived since 1909.

George, the eldest son born to Mr. and Mrs. Femling, is a graduate in the 1915 class of the University of Minnesota, where he took the course in agriculture and where his sister, Caroline, is still a student. The other children born to this union are: John, Frank, William, Norman, Fredericka and Dorothy. Olive, who was born after Fredericka, died at the age of four months.

Mr. Femling, who recalls many interesting experiences of pioneer life in Otter Tail county, remembers the time when Fergus Falls was the only market reached by a passable road, and when the trip to that point and back required four days. In relating of the conditions of the roads he tells of one occasion when returning home with a load of wheat he was obliged to block all four wheels of the wagon to prevent the team from falling on the steep hills. Once during the early days of settlement, Fred Femling and his father camped out when the temperature was forty degrees below zero. One of the greatest hardships encountered by these two men was that of rowing across the lake to gather hay which in the winter had to be hauled to the farm on the ice. They threshed the first two crops of wheat with a flail. Game, such as deer, ducks, rabbits and partridges, was plentiful and was a large part of the living. They had to go fifteen miles for their mail, which they usually got about twice a month.

TEMAN A. LUND.

One of the well-known and prosperous farmers of Erhards Grove township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, is Teman A. Lund, who was born in Erhards Grove township, September 12, 1876, the son of Anund and Olena Lund, both of whom were natives of Norway. Anund Lund came to America in 1860 and settled in Waseca county, Minnesota, where he lived until 1874, and then moved to Erhards Grove township, where he homesteaded eighty acres of land in sections 21 and 22, to which he added eighty acres and where the elder Lund lived until his death, in 1898, his widow, Olena, surviving him until 1915. Anund and Olena Lund were the parents of the following children: Christine, Mary (deceased), Tora (deceased), Andrena (deceased), Peter (deceased), Emma (deceased), Jennie, Tilla, Teman A., Lena, John and Peter.

Teman A. Lund received his education in the public schools of Erhards Grove township, after which he went to the state of North Dakota and homesteaded a farm of one hundred and sixty acres in Pierce county, where he lived for seven years and then returned to Otter Tail county, Minnesota. On his return to Erhards Grove township, Teman A. Lund bought one hundred and eighty-three acres of land in section 8, a place which he improved with a modern house, large barn and outbuildings, and where he now follows general agricultural pursuits, together with the raising of live stock.

During the year 1902 Teman A. Lund was married to Clara Christopherson, who was born in Erhards Grove township, February 3, 1878, the daughter of Andrew and Lise Christopherson, who were among the early settlers in Erhards Grove township. To the marriage of Teman A. and Clara Lund have been born three children, Orville, Linda and Myrtle.

M. O. MADSON.

M. O. Madson, farmer and well-known citizen of Trondhjem township, this county, was born in Norway, January 25, 1855, the son of Ole and Olea Madson, both of whom were natives of Norway, the former born in 1822, the latter in 1830. Ole Madson, who was a painter by trade, was married in Norway in 1840 and in 1866, with his family, the elder Madson came to America and located in Fillmore county, Minnesota, where he lived a short time and then moved to Otter Tail county in 1869, where he homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of land in section 4, Trondhjem township, where Ole Madson lived until his death, in 1905, his wife surviving him until 1915. Ole and Olea Madson were the parents of the following children: Ole, Johanna, Anne, O. M., Serena, M. O., John, Severn and two children who died in infancy.

M. O. Madson received his education in the schools of Norway, and in the schools of Fillmore and Otter Tail counties, Minnesota, after which he became a farmer, securing the home place of one hundred and sixty acres, which M. O. Madson has improved and to which farm he has added land until now Mr. Madson cultivates two hundred and forty acres of choice land in Trondhjem township. In addition to his general farming, M. O. Madson engages extensively in the raising of fine grade live stock. M. O. Madson has now retired from active farm work, but lives on the farm and supervises the conduct of the place.

On May 30, 1884, M. O. Madson was married to Julia Steffinsen, who was born in Fillmore county, Minnesota, in the year 1865, the daughter of John and Hokine Steffinsen, early settlers in Fillmore county, where they lived for some time and then moved to Clay county, where they spent their

last days. To the marriage of M. O. and Julia Madson have been born seven children: Melvin, Oscar, John, Henry, Eunice, Helen and Gustof, all of whom are living.

M. O. Madson has been active in the public and official life of the community, having served as clerk of the school board for fifteen years and for an equal length of time Mr. Madson served with honor and with notable efficiency as a member of the board of supervisors.

HERMAN LARSON.

Herman Larson, successful farmer and stock raiser, highly-respected citizen and man of affairs in the life of Eagle Lake township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, was born in Sweden, March 20, 1875, the son of Andrew Larson, who was born in Sweden, July 6, 1841, and of Joanna Kjell, who was born in Sweden, May 31, 1851. Andrew Larson, who was a laborer in his native country, came to America in the year 1881, coming directly to Otter Tail county, where he bought one hundred and sixty acres of land in Orwell township, a place on which he lived as a general farmer until his death on September 20, 1904, following his death, his widow going to Fergus Falls, Minnesota, where she now lives.

Andrew Larson was one of the well-known and prosperous farmers of the community, at the time of his death being the owner of three hundred and sixty acres of well-tilled and highly-cultivated land, on which he had placed extensive improvements, making his farm one of the best in the township. Andrew Larson and wife were the parents of six children, Herman, Anna, Elida, Albin, Elof and Marvin, all of whom are members of the Swedish Lutheran church. In politics Andrew Larson was an ardent Republican.

Following his education in the common schools of Orwell township, Otter Tail county, Herman Larson became a farmer, for a time operating a threshing machine with O. Sholberg, later moving, in the year 1900, to Eagle Lake township, where he ran his father-in-law's farm. He afterward bought forty acres and now owns two hundred and forty acres of land, which he has extensively improved and where he engages in general farming and stock raising.

During the year 1896, Herman Larson was married to Jennie Olson, who was born on December 20, 1873, the daughter of Andrew and Hannah (Nelson) Olson, the father born in Sweden, December 19, 1833, he living in his native country, where he was a railroad worker until the year 1871, then coming to America, working on the railroads of the state of Wisconsin for some time, after which he came to Eagle Lake township and after many privations and sacrifices became the owner of a farm of one hundred and

sixty acres of land, a place on which Herman Larson, his son-in-law, now lives. Andrew Olson died on July 9, 1906, his wife, Hannah, having preceded him in death many years, she dying on June 16, 1884. Andrew and Hannah Olson were faithful and devout members of the Swedish Lutheran church. To the marriage of Herman and Jennie (Olson) Larson were born the following children: Arvid H., who was born on December 19, 1896; Harry F., September 20, 1898; Olof S., April 28, 1901; Helen E., December 21, 1903.

Herman Larson is one of the more prominent members of the Swedish Lutheran church of Eagle Lake, Minnesota, being a communicant who has served his church for three years as treasurer, as well as being a member who is an active worker and supporter of the efforts of this denomination.

In political affiliation Herman Larson supports the Republican party, although in local affairs he is independent of party. Mr. Larson has taken no especial part in the official or public circles of his township, but he is known as one of the leading citizens of the community, one who has done no little in the development and in the progress of the county and its various interests. Herman Larson and his family are among the esteemed and honored people of Eagle Lake township and of Otter Tail county, Minnesota.

ANDREW GLENDE.

Andrew Glende, a well-known farmer of Everts township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, who was born in Norway on December 10, 1855, is the son of Andrew and Kare (Bye) Glende, both of whom were born in Norway, the former in 1823 and the latter about the same year. They were married in Norway and both died in that country, the former in 1857 and the latter in 1865. They were the parents of seven children: Anna Mary, Karen, Erick, Andreas, Andrinie, Anton and Andrew. Andrew Glende's mother was twice married, the second time to Even A. Glende, by whom she had one child, Thor.

Educated in the public schools of his native land, Andrew Glende came to America in 1871 and settled in Fairbault, Rice county, Minnesota. The next year he came to Otter Tail county, and in 1874 purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land in section 10, of Everts township. Later he sold this farm and purchased one hundred and sixty acres, in 1878, where he has since lived. Mr. Glende has erected substantial buildings on the farm and has made other improvements.

In 1885 Andrew Glende was married to Olena Larson, and to them was born one child, Kare. Mrs. Glende died in 1888, and five years later Mr. Glende was married to Mina Venes, of Everts township, who is the daughter of John and Anna Mary Venes. They came from Norway in

1880 and purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land in Everts township. Later they sold this farm and moved to Battle Lake. By his second marriage Mr. Glende has five children, all of whom are living, Joseph, Marie, Agnes, Ovidia and Altine.

Mr. and Mrs. Glende are members of the Lutheran church.

HENRY D. LUHNING

Henry D. Luhning, farmer and well-known citizen of Girard township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, was born in Hanover, Germany, on June 27, 1873, the son of H. Luhning and Magarete Luhning, natives of Germany.

Henry D. Luhning was educated in the schools of his native country, after which he came to America, in 1899, and located in Otter Tail county, Minnesota, where, in partnership with his brother, William, Henry D. Luhning bought three hundred and thirty acres of land in Otter Tail township, a place which Mr. Luhning cultivated for some time and then he bought one hundred and seventy-two acres of land in Girard township, a farm on which he now lives as a general farmer.

On July 18, 1902, Henry D. Luhning was married to Anna Peters, who was born in Germany, the daughter of Otto Peters and wife. To the marriage of Henry D. and Anna Luhning has been born one child, William. Mr. and Mrs. Luhning also have one adopted child, Elsie. Henry D. Luhning and his family are members of the German Lutheran church, they being active members in the congregation of their choice.

Henry D. Luhning, for two years has been school treasurer for Otter Tail township, and he is a man who takes an important place in the public life of his community.

JOHN H. DINSMORE

John H. Dinsmore, a well-to-do farmer of Maine township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, was born near Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, January 31, 1862.

Mr. Dinsmore is a son of Scott and Isabelle Christie Dinsmore. Scott Dinsmore was a farmer in Pennsylvania, and for twenty-five years taught school in Westmoreland county, that state. He owned one hundred and forty acres of land and was a prominent and leading member of the Presbyterian church, having served as an elder in that denomination for many years. Scott Dinsmore was the father of nine children, eight sons and one daughter.

John H. Dinsmore received his education in the common schools of the Keystone state, and in the spring of 1884 left Pennsylvania for Otter Tail county, Minnesota. For a time Mr. Dinsmore was employed by D. G.

Keefe, and during this period taught school during the winter months in Fergus Falls township. Afterwards he removed to Page county, Iowa, and for six years operated a farm belonging to his aunt. He also bought eighty acres of land in Page county, and lived in Iowa for six years. In 1891 Mr. Dinsmore sold his holdings in Iowa, and purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land in Maine township, this county, sixty acres of which was cleared. In 1910 Mr. Dinsmore built a comfortable and commodious house. Previous to this, in 1902, he had built a large barn.

In 1888 John Dinsmore was married to Nettie Wilson, a daughter of William Wilson, a Pennsylvania farmer. John Dinsmore and wife are the parents of four children, Isabel, Wilson W., Lilian and J. Scott.

Mr. Dinsmore and family are members of the Presbyterian church in Maine township, and take an active interest in the affairs of that congregation. Mr. Dinsmore has served efficiently for a number of years as clerk of the township school board, and has been a member of the board altogether for a period of twenty years. He is well known and highly respected in Maine township.

JOHN SIM.

John Sim, well-known farmer and prominent citizen of Scambler township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, was born in Scotland, October 28, 1848, the son of John and Agnes (Donald) Sim, both of whom were natives of Scotland, born in the year 1811. John Sim, Sr., who was a blacksmith in the highlands of Scotland, lived in his native country during his entire life, dying in the year 1875. Agnes, the wife of the elder Sim, died in 1885, at Glasgow, Scotland. John and Agnes Sim were the parents of the following children: Margaret, Thomas, James, Agnes, Janet, John, Alexander, David and two children who died in infancy.

Following his education in the public schools of his native country, John Sim came to America, and in 1887 settled in Otter Tail county, Minnesota, where he started a blacksmith shop, a trade which he followed until 1892, and then bought forty acres of land in Scambler township, a place which he improved and to which Mr. Sim has added land until he now owns one hundred and eighty acres of well-improved and highly-cultivated land. John Sim, in addition to his general farming, makes a specialty of dairying.

During the year 1878 John Sim was married to Isabel Cameron, a native of Scotland, and to this marriage have been born seven children: John Cameron, Thomas, James, Isabel, David, Alexander and Francis.

John Sim has been an active and a valued citizen in business circles of Scambler township. Mr. Sim was one of the organizers of the Park Region Co-operative Creamery and Store Company, of Cormant, Minnesota; he was

one of the organizers of the Farmer's Elevator Company, at Pelican Rapids, and is a member of the Pelican Rapids Farmers' Shipping Association. John Sim has been a prominent member of the school board for many years and he is now one of the supervisors of Scambler township.

JOHANNES P. SCHEI.

Johannes P. Schei, a pioneer citizen of Otter Tail county and one of the best-known residents of Tordenskjold township, where he is now living retired, is a native of Norway, born eight miles out of Trondhjem, May 17, 1839.

The venerable Johannes P. Schei is the son of Peter and Jochimine Schei, who in later life immigrated to America. They died on a farm in Tordenskjold township about 1800 and are buried in the Tordenskjold township cemetery. They were farmers by occupation and had a family of nine children, all of whom came with them to America. Johannes P. was the eldest, Maria, who died in Norway; Ole, who lives in Red Wing, Minnesota; Olaf, who died in Minneapolis; Berit Martha, who married Aneus Volen and died at Underwood; Paulina, who died unmarried in Minneapolis; Martin, who died in Minneapolis; Mary, who married a Mr. Johnson and lives in Minneapolis, and Ever, who resides near Minneapolis.

Johannes P. Schei was educated in the public schools and, from his boyhood, has been engaged in farming. In 1867 he accompanied his parents to America, and for the next three years worked on a farm in Goodhue county. Later the family came to Otter Tail county and homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres in Tordenskjold township. This farm was composed altogether of wild land and, after clearing a place, Mr. Schei built a log house, having lived one summer in a wagon. The old log house stood on the site of the present Schei home. Later, Mr. Schei added forty acres of land in Dane Prairie township and still later two hundred acres more southeast in Tordenskjold township, erecting houses and barns on these various farms. For some years, Mr. Schei has been living retired.

On July 4, 1867, Johannes P. Schei was married in Goodhue county, Minnesota, to Barteline Rosvold, an aunt of Martin Rosvold, mentioned elsewhere in this volume. Mr. and Mrs. Schei have been the parents of ten children, Olaf, who is a merchant at Fergus Falls; Julia, who died at the age of six years; Karen, who married Albert Anderson and lives in Dane Prairie township; Julius, who is a farmer in Tordenskjold township; Joseph, who died at the age of twenty-seven; Ole, who is in the real estate business in Portland, Oregon; Martin, who is a farmer in Idaho; John G., who is the manager of the home farm; Olena, who died at the age of twenty years, and Luba, who lives at home with her parents.

ELLEF E. RISBRUDT.

Ellef E. Risbrudt is one of the representative agriculturists of St. Olaf township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, and is a native of Norway, his birth having occurred on September 27, 1857. He is the son of Engebret T. Risbrudt, also a native of Norway and the brother of Torkel E. Risbrudt.

Ellef E. Risbrudt received his education in the public schools of St. Olaf township, Otter Tail county, and was reared on the home farm where he assisted his father with the work until twenty-seven years of age. In 1884 he purchased one hundred and seventy acres of land in St. Olaf township, on which he erected buildings and made other improvements. He has continued to live on this place ever since. In 1911 he purchased three hundred and twenty acres of land, under the homestead law, in Montana and remained there until Christmas, 1914. Each year he returned to his former home in St. Olaf township to visit his people, and in 1901 purchased ninety acres of land near the home place. In 1900 he invested in forty acres more adjoining his farm, and now owns three hundred and ten acres in St. Olaf township. He is also the owner of ten acres of timber land, which was given to him by his father. The farm in St. Olaf township is devoted to general agriculture and stock raising.

On June 2, 1883, Ellef E. Risbrudt, Jr., was united in marriage to Christine Johnson and they are the parents of six children as follow: Clara, Emma, Tena, Elvin, Selmer and Noble. Politically, Ellef E. Risbrudt, Jr., is a staunch advocate of Republican principles and is very earnest in his convictions. Religiously, he is a member of the Norwegian Lutheran church and lends his active support to that church.

OLIVER E. MOSES.

Oliver E. Moses, who claims Minnesota as the state of his nativity, was born in Blue Earth county, on February 19, 1872, and is the son of Emerson and Alice W. (Calvin) Moses, natives of the state of Connecticut. The grandparents of the subject of this sketch were born in Hartford county, Connecticut, where Richard Moses, the paternal grandfather, was a farmer and landowner. He and his wife, Rachel Moses, lived in that community until they died. Their son, Emerson Moses, grew to manhood in the state where he was born and took up farming on his father's place. In 1868, after selling the old home, which he had in the meantime acquired, to an elder brother, Adrian, he moved to Minnesota, coming by stage from Winona, there being no railroad at that time, and where he bought one hundred and sixty acres of land in Judson and Garden City townships, located in Blue Earth county. On this land, which was only partially improved, he worked

at dairying and farming, raising pure-blood Jersey cows, which breed his son, Oliver, still raises. His death occurred in 1901. After the death of her husband, Mrs. Moses continued to live on the homestead until a short while before her death, when she went to make her home with her son, O. E. Moses, the subject of this sketch. She passed away on March 5, 1915. At the time of his death, Mr. Moses owned two hundred acres of land. He was always an enthusiastic member of the Democratic party. The children born to Mr. and Mrs. Moses, are O. E. and Charles R., who lives on the old home place in Blue Earth county, and two children who died in infancy.

O. E. Moses attended the public schools of the village of Lake Crystal. After completing the course he remained on the home place until he was twenty-six years old. He bought one hundred and twenty acres of land adjoining his father's place and worked upon it at general farming for six years. In March, 1904, he and family moved to Otter Tail county, where in 1903, they had purchased three hundred and eleven acres of land in section 35, Scambler township. This farm they still occupy today. At the time they bought the place, a log cabin was the only dwelling in evidence, but Mr. Moses has added improvements from year to year until the farm is one of the most up-to-date in that vicinity. In 1914, he erected a concrete silo. He is a breeder of full-blood Jersey cattle and keeps fifteen milch cows. He handles eighty head of Yorkshire hogs annually.

Mr. Moses was the originator of the idea of the Farmers Co-operative Creamery at Pelican Rapids, where he served for three years as director of the concern. In 1914, in partnership with L. C. Nicholson, he bought a threshing outfit, which they still operate. Although a member of the Democratic party when national issues are at stake, Mr. Moses votes independently in local politics.

The marriage of Oliver E. Moses to May Q. Beebe, a native of Waupun, Wisconsin, was solemnized on January 1, 1898. Mrs. Moses was born on May 14, 1870, and is the daughter of Norman and Susan L. (Davis) Beebe, who were among the early settlers of Blue Earth county.

Norman Beebe was a native of Cattaraugus county, New York, and moved to Wisconsin during the pioneer days of that state. He settled near Waupun, where he became a successful farmer with large dairy interests. Seven children were born, of whom all are living and all married. They are Bird V., of Spa, California, a rancher; Leona Butterfield, of Los Angeles, California; May Q. Moses, of Pelican Rapids, Minnesota; Norman E., a farmer of St. Hilaire, Minnesota; Dr. Jay L., of Anaheim, California, a successful doctor and surgeon; Susie D. McAulay, of Fullerton, California; and Roxa L. Perrin, of Mansfield, Illinois. In 1878 he moved to Blue Earth county, Minnesota, and bought a four-hundred-acre farm. He kept

on an average, fifty cows, his daughter (now Mrs. Moses) making cheese of the milk in the summer and butter in the winter, for ten years, having a cheese factory on the farm. In 1895 Mrs. Moses made cheese in a large factory at Garden City, Minnesota, her brother, Norman, working as helper. After selling this farm, the family lived in Lake Crystal, until 1901, when Mr. and Mrs. Beebe and two youngest daughters moved to Upland, California, where he bought a twenty-acre orange ranch, where they lived until he died in January, 1904. His wife, who is a native of Erie county, New York, was seventy-five years old on January 8, 1916. She is living with her daughter, Mrs. Susie McAulay, at Fullerton, California.

Five children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Oliver E. Moses, Bernard Earl, seventeen, who is a student in the State Agricultural College at Crookston, Minnesota; Jay Lind, sixteen; Bertha May, fifteen, who will also attend the state school; Norman, seven, and Emerson, five years. They are all at home and help on the farm when not in school.

MARTIN O. HALVORSEN.

Martin O. Halvorsen is one of four children born to Ole and Agnete (Erland) Halvorsen, and his birth occurred on April 4, 1866, in the city of Stavanger, Norway. He has not needed a leader to shape his destiny nor a fortune with which to begin his business career but, with the natural aptitude for his chosen vocation and keen foresight, he forged straight ahead, until he has reached a position of prominence.

Martin O. Halvorsen immigrated to America in 1884 and located immediately in Dalton, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, where his brother Halver had preceded him the previous year. After the arrival of Halver and Martin O., the remaining members of the family followed in quick succession until, in 1885, the last ones had taken up their abode in the great West. Ole Halvorsen, father of Martin Halvorsen, was employed for twenty-two years making "block and tackle," while a resident of his native country and during the entire time was engaged by the same firm. After his arrival in the United States he engaged in agriculture. To this union were born four children: Johanna, Ingeborg, Halver and Martin O. The paternal grandparents of Martin O. Halvorsen were Halver and Ingeborg Halvorsen, who immigrated to America in 1880, locating near Dalton, Minnesota, where his death occurred at the age of eighty-two years. His wife died at the age of ninety-two years. He was employed in the capacity of clerk for one of the business firms in Norway. The maternal grandparents of Martin O. Halvorsen were Morton and Ellan Erland, who lived and died in Stavanger, Norway. Morton Erland was a shoemaker by trade and followed that vocation until his death. The paternal grandparents were very

old when they immigrated to this country and spent their last days, with their son, Halver.

Martin O. Halvorsen received his education in the schools of Norway and after completing same, he was engaged in the rope-making trade, but upon his arrival in America he became interested in farming, which occupation has claimed his energies until the present time. In 1891 he purchased a farm and now owns one hundred and sixty acres, plus the one hundred and sixty acres contained in the original place. He has put on all the improvements and the buildings are far superior to those on the average farm. He makes a specialty of general farming and stock raising and uses progressive methods in the production of his crops.

On November 18, 1888, Martin O. Halvorsen was united in marriage to Hannah Sonmor, a native of Norway and daughter of Even Sonmor, also a native of Norway. Hannah was born in that country, but emigrated to America with her parents at the age of six months. To the union of Martin O. and Hannah (Sonmor) Halvorsen, have been born three children, namely, Carrie, Ole Alvin and Melvin Herman. Carrie became the wife of Julius Madson. The two sons are at home. Martin O. Halvorsen was supervisor for Town of Tumuli, covering a period of six years. He and his wife are loyal supporters and active members of the Ten Mile Lake Lutheran church. He is much respected and liked by those who know him best and he has many friends in the community in which he resides.

GEORGE WASHINGTON SHELDON.

Born in the town of Lawrence, St. Lawrence county, New York, August 13, 1839. George Washington Sheldon, a well-known retired resident of Fergus Falls, Minnesota, is the son of Nehemiah and Sarah (Lincoln) Sheldon, the latter of whom died when George W. was a mere lad, leaving at the time of her death four children. Mr. Sheldon's father was married, secondly, to Nancy Smith, and to them was born one child, now Mrs. Clifford. Mr. Sheldon has two brothers living, Gordon H., who lives near Nicholville, New York, and Milo P., who lives at Lawrence, New York. Mrs. Nancy (Smith) Sheldon died a few years after her marriage to Nehemiah Sheldon and he was married, thirdly, to Sarah Andrews, and to them were born three children.

George W. Sheldon was reared on the home farm at Lawrence, New York, and, after growing to manhood, purchased a farm adjoining that of his father, where he carried on farming until 1872, when he and his wife came west with a colony which had left New York state at that time. They came to Minnesota and settled in Otter Tail county, locating in a town which the colony called Western. Mr. Sheldon homesteaded one hundred



Mrs. AND MRS. GEORGE W. SHELDON.

and sixty acres and bought enough more to make two hundred and fourteen acres. He built a small frame house and later added to this house, spending many years on this farm. After living on the farm until 1903, Mr. Sheldon moved with his wife to Fergus Falls, Minnesota. Previously he had been, for six years, overseer of the county poor farm. Since moving to Fergus Falls, Minnesota, Mr. Sheldon has been living retired.

George W. Sheldon has been twice married. He was married the first time to Mary Dewey, a native of New York state, and, after her death, he was married to his present wife, who, before her marriage, was Abbie Giffin, a daughter of Calvin and Rhoda (Hewitt) Giffin, both natives of Vermont, who later moved to New York, where they remained the rest of their lives.

The Sheldons are highly respected citizens of this city and are well known among the people of Fergus Falls and vicinity. Mr. Sheldon served as supervisor in the town of Western.

PETER C. SVENDSRUD.

Peter C. Svendsrud is one of nine children born to the union of Christian and Ingeborg (Petersdatter) Svendsrud and his birth occurred in 1865, in Norway, of which his parents were both natives. The names of the other children follow: Nels, Carn, Mathia, Mathew, Carl, Julia, Marie and Otto. Christian Svendsrud was a farmer and the home place was near the town of Forburg, Norway, where Peter C. Svendsrud was born. Christian Svendsrud died in Norway and his widow still lives in that country. The paternal grandparents of Peter C. Svendsrud were Nels Nelson and Marie Svendsrud who remained in Norway all their lives. Nels Nelson Svendsrud was a farmer and followed that vocation until his death. The maternal grandparents of Peter C. Svendsrud were also natives of Norway and farmers, who lived and died in that country. Their names were Peter Horen and Karen Petersdatter. Both families were members of the Lutheran church.

Peter C. Svendsrud is indebted to the schools of Norway for the education which he received, following which he immigrated to America, in 1890, and came direct to Dalton, Otter Tail county, where he was employed for a period of seven years, in the service of K. H. Brandvold. After completing this service, he rented the farm he now owns and cultivated it, for the former owner, for a period of two years, at the end of which time he purchased it. This place consists of one hundred and sixty acres of land, located in Tumuli township, Otter Tail county.

In 1904, Peter C. Svendsrud was united in marriage to Inger Nelson, daughter of Tulif Nelson, an early settler of Tumuli township. To the

union of Peter C. Svendsrud and his wife have been born four children: Chester, Mildred, Burghild and Evelyn. He has been an earnest worker and his wife has been of material help to him in his effort to evolve a comfortable competency from his labors.

ALBERT KNUDSEN.

The sturdy Norwegian has played a conspicuous role and has had a large part in the development of the great state of Minnesota. The seeds of their thrift and energy, the sturdiness of their race and the fervor of their religious belief, have been beneficially scattered broad-cast throughout this great state, whose present growth and development are a marvel. The subject, whose name heads this sketch, is one of those sons of Norway who has aided in the development of Otter Tail county, Minnesota.

Albert Knudsen was born in Bergen, Norway, on October 2, 1845, the son of Knud Larson and Ingeborg Jacobsen, both of whom were born, lived and died in Norway. Knud Larson Jacobsen was a farmer and landowner in his native land and reared his children to manhood and womanhood on his farm, instilling in them the love of husbandry. He was actively interested in the local politics of his county. Both he and his beloved wife were devoted members of the Lutheran church. Six children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Knud Larson Jacobsen, as follow: Lars, a farmer who lived and died in Norway; Annie, the wife of Nels Muklebush, who remained in her native land; Jacob, a farmer and stock dealer of Norway; Ingeborg, the wife of Jacob Skenlo, who lives in Norway, and Martha, the wife of a Mr. Skenlo, who died early in life.

Albert Knudsen was educated in the public schools of Norway, following the school as it was conducted from place to place. At an early age the love of adventure, so characteristic of the race, asserted itself and he became a sailor and fisherman, which occupations he followed until he was twenty-three years of age. In the meantime he had also served at various times in the army. In 1866 he left his native land and emigrated to America and, upon his arrival in the United States, came directly to Minnesota, where he worked on various farms in Fillmore county. Later he removed to Wisconsin and was employed in the pine woods, near Black River Falls. Still later he returned to Fillmore county and then went to Duluth, where he was employed in the lumber camps and on the lakes. Subsequently, he removed to Superior and lived there for a time, but returned to Duluth. Finally, in 1878, he came to Otter Tail county and homesteaded forty acres of land in section 34, Bluffton township. At that time the land was covered with brush and had never been cultivated. Having erected a log house west of the present barn, he began to clear the land and to break the soil. Several

years later, he erected a small frame house and still later, in 1910, a modern barn. Mr. Knudsen has always rented considerable land in his immediate neighborhood as well as adding to his original tract. At the present time he operates about two hundred acres. He is devoted to general farming and has about eight milch cows on his farm.

In 1873 Albert Knudsen was married in Fillmore county to Johanna Gilbertson, also a native of Norway and the daughter of Gilbert Jacobson, a pioneer settler in Fillmore county, who later moved to South Dakota, where he died many years ago. To this happy union there have been born seven children, as follow: Clara, who married Frank Potter, died in Wadena, Minnesota; Josephine is a trained nurse and lives at home with her parents; Louisa married Mark Greene and lives in North Dakota; Albert is a building contractor and an electrician of Wadena; Matilda married Elmer Johnson and lives in the state of Washington; Julia, the twin of Albert, married Charles Bradford and lives in Crete, North Dakota, where he is station agent; Arthur lives at home with his parents.

Albert Knudsen is identified with the Republican party and much interested in local politics. He has served successfully and efficiently as supervisor of Bluffton township, and as road boss has had much to do with road building in this section of Minnesota.

KARL J. KOPPERUD.

Karl J. Kopperud is one of the successful agriculturists of Norwegian Grove township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota and also is a leader in the affairs of the Norwegian Lutheran church, in which denomination he has been choir leader for many years. He was born on January 1, 1859, in Norway and is the son of Johanes O. and Anne Kopperud, both natives of Norway. Johanes O. Kopperud was born in 1800 and his death occurred in 1884. Anne Kopperud was born in 1813, and died in 1905. Johanes O. Kopperud was a farmer while a resident of his native country and immigrated to America in 1871, traveling as far as St. Cloud, Minnesota, by rail and finishing his journey to Norwegian Grove township, Otter Tail county, by ox-team conveyance. Upon his arrival in this locality, he purchased forty acres of land, under the homestead law, continuing to reside with his sons. He was the father of seven children, whose names follow: Ole, Martin, Randine, Andrew, Johanes (deceased), Mathia and Karl J.

Karl J. Kopperud is indebted to the schools of his native heath for the education which he received, following which he immigrated to America and engaged in general farming on the place he now owns. This farm consists of one hundred and twenty-six acres located in Norwegian Grove township, Otter Tail county.

In 1902, Karl Kopperud was united in marriage to Matilda Mikelson, and to them have been born four children, whose names follow: Calmer, Esther, James and Nora. Karl Kopperud and his wife are earnest members of the Norwegian Lutheran church, in which denomination he has served as treasurer for nearly nine years in Norwegian Grove church.

OLE HENRY.

In the days when homesteading was a popular occupation in Minnesota, many enterprising men were drawn to her prairies to work at clearing the land of its timber and underbrush. Among those who have been most successful at this employment are the members of the colony of Norwegians, who bearing of the agricultural wealth of the state, crossed the Atlantic to farm within its boundaries. Ole Henry is one of the pioneer farmers of Otter Tail county, and owes his success to his ability to meet the demands of a life in the wilderness, and to his method of removing obstacles incidental to establishing a home in a primitive district.

On November 11, 1854, Ole Henry was born, sixty miles north of Christiania, Norway. He is the son of Henry Pederson and Caroline Maria Olson, both natives of Norway. His father worked the greater part of his life at the occupation of farming. He was owner of a small tract of land in his native country and for a time before his death was employed in a saw-mill. After his death, which occurred in 1869, his widow and three children came to the United States to join the eldest son, Martin, who was living in Otter Tail county.

His mother was a woman of much force of character and sound wisdom. Left a widow when her children had not yet reached the age of independence, she left her native land to brave the dangers of a life of toil in the wilderness of a foreign land. Being a widow she was entitled to eighty acres of homestead land, of which she held possession until her son Ole was of age. Upon reaching manhood he, too, acquired eighty acres of land which adjoined his mother's, and converted the whole tract into one farm place. Mrs. Henry is the mother of the following children: Martin, a farmer of Clitherall township; Christena, the wife of Peter Hanson, who is living at Battle Lake; Ole, the subject of this sketch, and Christian, who is a farmer living in Clitherall township.

Ole Henry received his elementary education in the public schools of Norway and in 1870 came to America with his mother and family. They began the homestead life upon their arrival in Minnesota. After clearing roads and cutting large tracts of timber land, the family began to build a small log house, which is still standing on the present farm. It is a rude structure, twelve by fourteen feet and remains a memorial to the thorough-

ness and simplicity which characterized the work of the earliest settlers in that section. In relating his experiences in clearing the land, Mr. Henry has many interesting stories to tell. For twelve years during his process of making roads and cutting timber he used a team of oxen. Perham, the nearest station, was often reached by the most tiresome and dangerous journeys. Tribes of Indians still made their homes in the forests, but the recollections of Mr. Henry regarding his intercourse with them are of the most pleasant character.

The farm now occupied by Mr. Henry has been improved from time to time, until now it represents everything new in modern improvements. In 1908 he erected a barn of large proportions and he has also made a number of additions to the house.

In 1895, Mr. Henry was united in marriage to Thea Ellwanger, the daughter of Fred Ellwanger, one of the oldest settlers of Otter Tail county. Mrs. Henry, who is a native of Clitherall township, is the mother of the following children: Harold, who was born on September 21, 1897, and Irvin, who was born on September 28, 1901. Mr. and Mrs. Henry are members of the Synod congregation and contribute generously to its support. Not content with giving close attention to his agricultural affairs, Mr. Henry takes an active interest in politics and gives his loyal support to the cause of the Republican party.

SEVER C. SORENSON.

Representing two generations of expert farmers, Sever C. Sorenson is continuing the family name in a way which reflects credit upon those who have gone before, and success has come as a reward for conscientious work. Sever C. Sorenson was born on March 22, 1884, on the farm which is still his home. His father, Christian Sorenson, came with his wife, Mary (Hawkinson) Sorenson, to America from Norway, their native country, in 1866.

The paternal grandfather of Sever C. Sorenson, died in Norway, where the paternal grandparents, Ever and Ella Hawkinson were both born. After Christian Sorenson and his wife landed in America, they journeyed to this township and their early efforts and frugality enabled their son to acquire his present home, a part of which consists of the old log cabin in which the pioneer settlers lived. The elder Sorenson homesteaded one quarter section of land, where he lived until his death on January 2, 1913. Two years previous to his death he homesteaded eighty acres in North Dakota and this land his wife proved up after his death. She is still living with her son, Sever Sorenson. The father spent only enough summers in Dakota to legalize his claim. To this couple were born ten children, five of whom are

still living. These are, Paulina, Eliva, Gena, Sever and Hilda. The parents identified themselves with the Lutheran denomination.

Sever C. Sorenson, who lives with his mother on the old home farm, attended the local country schools and interspersed his school-days with farm work. He bought eighty acres of the home farm of his mother, and having previously purchased forty acres which his father had added to the original homestead, the property in his own name consisted of one hundred and twenty acres. He was engaged in erecting a fine modern barn at the time that his father was called away by death.

Mr. Sorenson is regarded as a man thoroughly conversant with the science and practice of farming, but more than this he is a dutiful son and has devoted himself to the care of his mother and the management of her property. Mr. Sorenson is highly respected in this vicinity.

DANIEL A. PETERSON.

The name of Daniel A. Peterson is a synonym for efficiency, thrift and honesty, these three qualities having been dominant factors in the successful issue of his many commercial and civil interests. He was born on November 28, 1869, in Sweden, and is the son of Andrew and Kazsa (Johnson) Peterson, both natives of Sweden. Andrew Peterson immigrated to America in 1869, effecting a temporary location in the city of Chicago, moving in 1874 to Otter Tail county, Minnesota, where he purchased a homestead in Eagle Lake township and prepared for the arrival of his family. In October, 1874, Kazsa (Johnson) Peterson, immigrated to America, accompanied by her children and they immediately joined the husband on the farm in Otter Tail county. The names of the children are as follow: Andrew, John, Peter, Agnes and Daniel. One daughter died in Sweden. Andrew is a farmer living in Eagle Lake township, Otter Tail county; John passed away while in Saskatchewan, Canada; Peter is proving on a homestead in Canada; Agnes is deceased. The mother of these children is a widow, her husband having died some years ago, and she resides with her son, Daniel. She is eighty-three years of age.

Daniel A. Peterson received his education in Eagle Lake township and has always resided on the old home place, which he now owns. This place contains two hundred and forty acres and is very well improved. On June 2, 1901, Daniel A. Peterson was united in marriage to Olena Finkleson, a native of Norway and a daughter of Ole Finkleson, also a native of Norway. The Finkleson family immigrated to America in 1800 and located in Eagle Lake township, Otter Tail county. To the union of Mr. and Mrs. Peterson have been born six children, Edith, Mabel, Ruth, Ida, Hazel and Leonard.

Mr. Peterson has served in various capacities, in township offices, acting as constable, school clerk and school treasurer. Commercially, he is a director of the Midway Telephone Company; director of the Farmers' Elevator Company at Melby, Minnesota, and is the president of the Melby Potato Warehouse Association, of which he was organizer, and has been president since 1912. He is also a stockholder in the State Bank of Melby, Minnesota. Few men are more respected by their fellow citizens than is Daniel A. Peterson, and the high regard in which he is held is a deserving tribute to his life of service and activities.

KARL MERZ.

Among the men of Otter Tail county, Minnesota, whose sterling qualities have made their imprint upon the business community, and without a record of whom the history of Otter Tail county would be incomplete, is the subject of this sketch. Mr. Merz is an agriculturist of exceptional qualifications and keen foresight, all of which have been of benefit in his financial achievement.

Karl Merz, farmer, Elizabeth township, this county, was born on August 4, 1840, at Wittenberg, Germany, and is a son of Schauer and Frances Merz. He received a good education in his native country, and came to America in 1863, at the age of twenty-three years, landing at New York City, from where he went direct to Cleveland, Ohio, where he was employed in a sash and door factory. After a short stay there he went to Michigan and worked in the copper mines for seven years. In 1870 he came to Elizabeth township, Otter Tail county, where he acquired a homestead in section 22, Friberg township, consisting of one hundred and sixty acres, which he farmed for a time and then sold out to Ferdinand Schmidt and then moved to Elizabeth township, where he bought two hundred acres, the most of which is under cultivation. Mr. Merz sold eighty acres of this tract to William Kort, and bought one hundred and twenty acres, eighty acres of which he gave to his step-son, Charles G. Wicker. He improved his farm with a substantial barn, which was erected in 1895, a house, built in 1898, a silo and two garages. Politically, Mr. Merz has always given his support to the Republican party, while his religious sympathies are with the Catholic church, to which he contributes liberally.

Schauer Merz was born in Wittenberg, Germany, in 1779. His wife was also a native of Wittenberg, where they both lived and died. Mr. Merz followed the vocation of a farmer, and was a soldier in the Napoleonic wars, serving in all twelve years, during which time he was never injured. Both Mr. and Mrs. Merz were members of the Catholic church. He died in 1867. This union was blest with six children: Joseph, Schauer, John,

George, Karl and Anna, the last two of whom were the only ones to come to America. Schaufer and George were soldiers in the army and never left their native country.

Karl Merz was united in marriage, in 1880, with Mary Koch, daughter of John Koch, and widow of John Wicker, by whom she had one son, Charles. She died on August 24, 1907, leaving one child, George, who was born on March 30, 1882, and was married on November 10, 1908, to Martha Knackendoffel, daughter of Adolph and Marie Knackendoffel. Martha Knackendoffel was born on November 27, 1884. Her parents were natives of Germany, and came to America about 1875. To George Merz and his wife, Martha Knackendoffel, have been born five children: Lawrence, Alvin, Elroy, Henry and a son who died in infancy. George Merz is living on the home place with his father, and owns forty acres, which he bought from his father in 1913.

Mr. Merz is a man of praiseworthy traits, and enjoys the good will and confidence of the community in which he resides.

PEDER LIEN.

Few men in Otter Tail county have a wider acquaintance than former Justice of the Peace Peder Lien, of Amor township, who is one of the best-known citizens of the Richville neighborhood and who is held in very high esteem throughout that entire section of the county.

Peder Lien, who was born on April 21, 1873, is a brother of John Lien, whose biographical sketch, presented elsewhere in this volume of biography, carries further details of the genealogy of the well-known Lien family, to which the reader is referred for additional information regarding that phase of the biography of the subject of this sketch. Reared on the home farm, receiving a common-school education, Peder Lien early became a farmer on his own account, having bought the farm on which he now lives in 1899. This is a fine farm of eighty acres and is under excellent cultivation, all the improvements on the same having been made by the present owner, who built the barn in 1901 and his present house in 1903.

On May 3, 1906, Peder Lien was united in marriage to Hannah Hult, who was born in Otter Tail county, daughter of John Hult, and to this union three children have been born, Julia, Hilma and Melvin. Mr. Lien for years has taken an active interest in civic affairs in Amor township and in the county at large and is much concerned in matters relating to good government. For eight years he served as constable for Amor township, in which capacity he performed excellent public service, and for four years he was a justice of the peace, his services in that connection having been of much value to the community, his decisions upon such matters of neighbor-

hood dispute as would come before him for adjudication invariably being accepted as final. Mr. Lien is regarded as one of the leaders in the community in which he lives and is held in high respect throughout that part of the county.

NELS N. HOLT.

Successful as a farmer and business man in Inman township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, Nels N. Holt was scarcely a year old when he was brought to America by his parents. Mr. Holt was born in Norway, February 9, 1865, and is the son of Nels O. and Olena Holt, both of whom were natives of Norway. Mr. Holt's father was born in 1831 and his mother in the same year.

The Holt family came to America and settled in Trempealeau county, Wisconsin, in 1866. Two years later they emigrated to Dakota county, Minnesota, purchasing eighty acres of land. Later they sold this first farm and purchased one hundred acres, where Mr. Holt's father died in 1910. His mother died in January, 1895. They were the parents of ten children, of whom Mary, Theodore, Theodore and Lena are deceased. The living children are Ole, Otto, Reinhart, Martin, Nels N. and Tina.

Nels N. Holt, who was about one year old when the family came from Norway to America, was six weeks on the ocean in the voyage from Norway to America. He was reared on a farm in Dakota county, Minnesota, and, when old enough, took up farming on his own responsibility. Mr. Holt purchased one hundred and forty acres in Scott county, Minnesota, and, after living on the farm for four years, sold out and moved to Otter Tail county in 1900. He settled in Inman township on a farm of one hundred and sixty acres in section 34, which he had purchased in 1899. Mr. Holt is a farmer and stockman. Some years ago he built a good house and barn, the latter of which is thirty by forty-six feet. His buildings are all well painted. His farm is well fenced and well drained and produces abundantly.

While a resident of Dakota county, in 1894, Nels N. Holt was married to Sarah Seversen, who was born in Dakota county, Minnesota, on the old homestead in 1860. She is the daughter of Ellend and Gunhild Seversen, early settlers of Dakota county, Minnesota. Mrs. Holt's father served in the Civil War and is now deceased. Her mother, however, is still living. Mr. and Mrs. Nels N. Holt have been the parents of two children, Mabel Otilia, and Mervel Netleton, who died in 1911, at the age of eleven years.

Mr. Holt has served on the school board for fourteen years and has served as supervisor of the township for three years and as assessor for three years. He has one more year to serve in the last named office. He has

always been prominent in local politics and prominent in the life of the neighborhood where he has lived. Nels N. Holt is a man of most genial temperament, who makes friends readily and who, by his upright and honorable course in life, is able to hold the friends he makes.

JOHN E. BOEN.

John E. Boen, a prosperous farmer of Aurdal township, this county, who is the son of Erick T. and Ingeborg (Bjorgo) Boen, was born in Norway, September 3, 1862. Mr. Boen's parents were natives of Norway. They emigrated to America and settled in Otter Tail county, where they homesteaded eighty acres of land. This farm is located in section 27, of Aurdal township. Here Mr. Boen's father died in 1896 and his mother three years previously, in 1893. They had nine children, of whom three sons and three daughters are now living.

John E. Boen came with his parents to Otter Tail county in 1876. He was educated in the public schools of Norway and also attended the public schools of Aurdal township after moving to this county. Mr. Boen is a farmer and owns one hundred and twenty acres of land in this township. He is a general farmer and stockman and has been prominent in this township for a number of years.

In 1888 John E. Boen was married to Sigri Bergrud, who was born in Norway in 1862, and who is the daughter of Andrew and Sigri Bergrud, early settlers in Otter Tail county, Minnesota. Mrs. Boen's father is deceased but her mother is still living. Mr. and Mrs. John E. Boen have been the parents of four children, Edgar, who is deceased, Inga, Emil and Anne.

Mr. Boen has served on the school board of Aurdal township and for ten or twelve years was supervisor of the township. He has also been chairman of the board of supervisors. Mr. and Mrs. Boen and family are members of the Lutheran church.

JOHN H. JOHNSON.

John H. Johnson, who owns an especially fine farm in Compton township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, was born on March 12, 1882, in Sweden, and is the son of R. J. and Margaret (Person) Johnson, both of whom were also born in Sweden. Mr. Johnson's paternal grandfather was a native of Sweden, a farmer by occupation and spent all of his life in his native country. He is now deceased. He and his wife were members of the Lutheran church.

Mr. Johnson's father, the late R. J. Johnson, was educated in Sweden and, after his marriage came to America in 1882. Upon landing at Halifax

he proceeded immediately to Detroit, Michigan, and then to Wadena, Minnesota. He lived in Wadena county until his removal to Compton township, Otter Tail county. Here the late R. J. Johnson purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land in section 21. He lived on his farm until his death, which occurred on January 3, 1909. His widow and her son, Carl, make their home with the subject of this sketch. At the time of his death, the late R. J. Johnson had one hundred and seventy-five acres of land, most of which he had succeeded in clearing. He was a member of the Mission church. Before he came to America he received military training in his native country. Four children were born to R. J. Johnson and wife, Anna, Carrie, John H. and Carl W. Of these children, Anna married Andrew Noreene, and Carrie married Nels J. Noreene.

John H. and Carl W. Johnson, having been educated in the rural schools of Compton township, lived at home with their parents on the farm until the father's death and afterward had charge of the farm. They now live on the home place, which comprises one hundred and seventy-five acres, of which one hundred and fifteen acres belongs to the mother until her death. The barn was built by Mr. Johnson in 1908 and the house was built in 1900.

On November 29, 1912, John H. Johnson was married to Ella Josephine Anderson, who was born in Compton township, this county, and who has borne her husband one son, Kenneth E. Mr. Johnson is a successful farmer, an enterprising and useful citizen and one who is well liked by all of his neighbors.

BERNHARD A. SLETNER.

Born in Norway on March 17, 1868, Bernhard A. Sletner, a successful farmer of Everts township, this county, is the son of Andreas O. and Karen (Olson) Sletner.

Mr. Sletner's parents were natives of Norway, his father having been born in 1832 and his mother in 1831. They came to Everts township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, in 1882, and purchased eighty acres of land, later adding ten acres. Some years later he sold the ten acres to his son, Ole, and later the eighty-acre farm to his son, Anton. Mr. Sletner's father is now living retired at his home. His wife died on January 6, 1913. To them were born six children, of whom three, Anetta, Maren and Caroline Augusta are deceased. The last named died in infancy. The living children are Ole, Bernhard and Anton.

Bernhard A. Sletner was educated in the public schools of Norway and in the public schools of Everts township, this county, which he attended after coming with his parents to America. Mr. Sletner owns one hundred

and sixty acres of land in section 11, of Everts township and is engaged in general farming and stock raising.

In 1898 Bernhard A. Sletner was married to Anne Berg, who was born in Norway in 1876, and who is the daughter of Anton and Anna Marea (Glende) Berg, mentioned elsewhere in this work. Mr. and Mrs. Sletner have no children.

Mr. Sletner has made many valuable improvements upon the farm where he now lives. He moved to the farm in 1898 and now has good buildings upon it, including a good house and a good barn. Bernhard Sletner is a progressive farmer and citizen. He and his wife are members of the Free Lutheran church.

OLOF PETERSON.

Farmer and stockman of Henning township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, Olof Peterson was born on July 29, 1874, in Sweden. Mr. Peterson is the son of Peter and Elna Peterson, who were also natives of Sweden.

Mr. Peterson's father died in 1875 and his mother in 1913. They were the parents of seven children, of whom four, Andrew, Daniel, Ellis and Mary, are deceased. The living children are Martin, Peter and Olof.

Olof Peterson was educated in the public schools of his native land. He came to America and to Otter Tail county, Minnesota, in 1892 and, for a short time, worked on neighboring farms. In 1894, in partnership with his brother, Peter, Mr. Peterson purchased eighty acres of land in section 13, of Leaf Lake township. In 1900 they sold the farm and in the same year moved to Henning township, purchasing one hundred and twenty acres in section 35. In 1914 Mr. Peterson purchased forty acres in section 35, and now owns altogether one hundred and sixty acres. Several years ago, in 1907, Mr. Peterson built a large barn, thirty by sixty-four feet. His farm is all very well improved. It is well drained, well fenced and has commodious and substantial outbuildings, which are kept in a very high state of repair. Mr. Peterson is a general farmer and stockman.

In 1900 Olof Peterson was married to Caroline Person, who was born in Clitherall township, near Eagle Lake church, in 1875, and who is the daughter of Andrew and Elna Person, natives of Sweden and pioneers in Clitherall township. They homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of land in 1899 and were among the first members of Eagle Lake church. In fact, Mrs. Peterson's father had charge of the church for many years. He died in 1910 and his wife in 1908, both living to advanced ages. Mr. and Mrs. Peterson were married in Eagle Lake Swedish Lutheran church by Rev. James Moody. Mrs. Peterson was one of five children born to her parents, being the youngest. The other children were Cecelia Eunice, Will

iam, Matilda and Axel, who is deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Olof Peterson have five children, Erick, Alfreda, Cecelia, Carl and Elizabeth.

The Petersons are members of the Swedish Lutheran church. They attend religious services regularly and take an active interest, not only in religious matters, but in civic matters as well. The family is widely known in Henning township and very popular.

MICHAEL LONG.

Michael Long, a general farmer and stock raiser of Candor township, Otter Tail county, and the proprietor of forty acres of land in Candor township, as well as forty acres in Becker county, Minnesota, was born on February 28, 1858, the son of Daniel and Mary (Gleason) Long, both natives of Ireland. When about nineteen years of age, Daniel Long and Mary Gleason emigrated to the United States and settled in Onondaga county, New York, where they were subsequently married. They spent their entire lives on a farm near Pompey Hill, Onondaga county, and lived to attain the ripe old ages of about seventy-five years, he passing away in 1904 and she in 1903. To this happy union there were born seven children: John, Nora, Michael, Edward, Mary, Thomas and Kate. Of these children, Nora alone is deceased.

Reared to manhood in Onondaga county and educated in the public schools of that county, Michael Long, upon reaching early manhood, began driving mules from Buffalo to Syracuse on the Erie canal, continuing the work for three summers. After working on the Great Lakes for several years as a laborer, he went to Minneapolis, only to remove a short time later to North Dakota, where he worked by the year as a farm laborer for Sheriff Twitchel. After his marriage he continued in the employment of Sheriff Twitchel on the Cass farm, near the Dalrumple farm. In 1900 he removed from North Dakota and settled in Candor township, Otter Tail county, buying forty acres in section 3, of that township. He also purchased an additional forty acres situated in Becker county.

On August 20, 1897, Michael Long was united in marriage to Carolina Bordseth, who was born in Norway, March 11, 1871, the daughter of Ole and Bertha Arneson, both of whom were natives of Norway. The former died in his native land in 1873, the father of but one child, Carolina, the wife of Mr. Long. Bertha Arneson was married, secondly, to Peter Mikkelsen, to which union there were born twelve children, seven of whom are living. To Mr. and Mrs. Long there have been born three children, all of whom are living, as follow: Mary, born on August 6, 1898; Arthur, November 17, 1900, and Mildred, August 20, 1905.

JOHN HENRY LARSON.

The second eldest living settler of Tordenskjold township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, is John Henry Larson, who had many Indians for neighbors when he first came to this part of Minnesota. Bear and deer were also plentiful during the period of his early residence in this county.

Mr. Larson was born at Lolland, Denmark, September 21, 1841, and is a son of Lars Christiansen and Annie Elizabeth Hendricksen, who spent their entire lives in their native land. Mr. Larson's father was a farmer and gardener. Both he and his wife were faithful and earnest members of the Lutheran church. They were the parents of five children, of whom Johanna, who married Hans Petersen, died in Denmark; Sophia, who married Peter Olson, died in Copenhagen, Denmark; Henry died in infancy, and Mina died at the age of ten years; John Henry, the subject of this review, is the youngest child.

Educated in the common schools of his native land and reared on his father's farm, John Henry Larson enlisted in the Danish army in 1864, and served eight months in the Danish-German War. He was taken prisoner by the Germans and was confined in a prison camp for two months. During his service as a soldier he participated in the battle at Duple, and after that battle was driven on to an island, where he was captured. He remained in prison until the close of the war. As a result of his service in the Danish army he receives an honor gift every year.

After leaving the army, Mr. Larson returned to the farm in order to earn money with which to come to America, and in 1868, while still unmarried, he emigrated to America and settled in Waukesha county, Wisconsin, about twenty miles west of Milwaukee, where he lived for one year. The next year Mr. Larson emigrated to Minnesota, where he pre-empted one hundred and sixty acres of land in Tordenskjold township. He began life in this new state by clearing the land and improving it in various ways. From time to time he erected substantial buildings and has lived on the farm where he first settled ever since. In the meantime, however, he has added to his original holdings and now owns two hundred and forty acres of splendid land in one tract. Mr. Larson is a general farmer and stockman, and has met with pronounced success in his chosen calling. He is a director in the creamery at Battle Lake, and takes an active interest in all local affairs which have for their object the betterment and development of his home community.

After living nine years as a bachelor in America, Mr. Larson was married, in 1878, to Carrie Amelia Robertson, a native of Denmark, and the daughter of Hans Robertson, who died in his native land. Mrs. Larson,

with her mother and some of her brothers, later came to America. Mr. and Mrs. Larson are the parents of ten children, as follow: Annie, the wife of Christian Hilton, lives at Red Wing, Minnesota; Sophia, who died in infancy; Dora, who also died while young; Sophia II is the wife of George Newman, and lives in Nebraska; Hans Johan, living at home; Dora, the wife of Emil Newman, a farmer of Elizabeth township; Mina, the wife of Bernard Carson, also a farmer of Elizabeth township; Henry, who lives at home; Julius, also living at home, and one who died in infancy.

John Henry Larson was identified with the Populist party. He served as a member of the school board in this township for many years. Although he was forty years a member of the Lutheran church, he is not now identified with any church. Mr. Larson is a very successful farmer, and a man who enjoys the confidence of a host of friends in this community.

ERNEST FREDERICK WINTER.

Ernest Frederick Winter, a farmer of Buse township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, near the city of Fergus Falls, was born near Aldenburg, Germany, March 28, 1876, a son of Ernest Henry and Helen (Hackenfrerisch) Winter. The father was born at Minden, Prussia, and the mother near Aldenburg, in a small village. At the time when the immediate subject of this sketch was about four and one-half years of age, the parents emigrated to America and came directly to this state, where the father had a brother, William Winter, residing at Horseshoe lake. William Winter had come to America prior to the Civil War and was a veteran of that struggle. After the close of the war he came to Otter Tail county and was one of the earliest settlers of this section.

In the winter of 1880-81 E. H. Winter purchased forty acres in Buse township from William Ward and took his homestead right for another forty, making his entire holdings eighty acres. There were no improvements on the land at that time and no building but the small claim shanty, but he set about making a home which came nearer to his ideal, and in time had many acres under cultivation and a comfortable residence, as well as suitable outbuildings. He later added another tract of forty acres and there spent the remainder of his life, his death occurring in 1899. Mrs. Helen Winter is still living and makes her home with her son, John. Ernest H. Winter became an ardent Republican and was known as a man who took great interest in anything which made for the development of the community where he had chosen to make his home. Both he and his good wife were devout members of the Lutheran church, in which faith they reared their family. There were seven children, as follow: Diedrich, a retired ranchman, living at Chinook, Montana; John, a farmer living near the old

homestead; Henry, who died in Seattle, Washington, where he had been a railway conductor; Mattie, single; Gerhard, living near the old homestead; Ernest Frederick, the sixth child in order of birth, and the youngest of the family was Mary, who died when but sixteen years of age.

Ernest F. Winter, in his boyhood, received such education as the schools of Base township at that time afforded and from early boyhood was taught to help the father with the work of the farm, which occupation he has always followed. Since the death of the father, Ernest F. Winter has managed the homestead, where he carries on general farming. Mr. Winter is a Republican in politics and both he and his wife are faithful members of the Lutheran church.

Mrs. Winter, before her marriage, was Martha Mavis, born in Western township, Otter Tail county, and a daughter of William Mavis. There are three children in the family, namely: Ernest, William and Martha. Mr. Winter is an honorable and upright man, highly respected by friends and neighbors.

KNUT WILHELM BONDY.

No citizen of Otter Tail county, Minnesota, has attained a greater degree of prominence in Minnesota state politics and few men enjoyed a larger measure of success than late Knut Wilhelm Bondy, a farmer by occupation and a member of the state board of equalization, to which position he was appointed both by Governor Nelson and Governor Klough. He also served two terms in the Minnesota state Legislature and enjoyed a large success as a farmer.

Mr. Bondy was born at Vang, Valdres, Norway, June 17, 1844, the son of Wilhelm Bonde, who spent his entire life in his native land. Mr. Bondy's father was a farmer by occupation and owned land in his native country. He lived a quiet and retired life.

The late Knut W. Bondy, whose name was changed from Bonde to Bondy, after coming to America, on account of the confusion with other people of the same name, was educated in the public schools of his native land. When he was eighteen years old, he immigrated to America alone and was the first of the family to leave Norway. Upon his arrival in America, he joined friends in Wisconsin and lived with them for a time, but in 1866 moved to Rice county, Minnesota, where he was employed by O. Osmundson, at Nerstrand. While living there he was married to Mr. Osmundson's niece and shortly after his marriage moved to Grant county, making the journey with an ox team in 1866. There were many difficulties to overcome in making this journey. The oxen were compelled to jump



KNUT W. BONDY.

from a ferry boat at Ft. Snelling, and some of his cattle were stolen by the Indians.

After living in Grant county for several months, in 1870 Knut W. Bondy came to Otter Tail county and homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres in Clitherall township. This farm was located in sections 17 and 18, and was wild land, largely covered by timber. A Mr. Myhre, cousin of Mr. Bondy, lived nearby in a large log cabin, and there Mr. Bondy and his family spent several months while he was erecting a house on his own land. Mr. Finkelson, a carpenter, assisted Mr. Bondy in building the new home. Subsequently, the farm was improved and sold to Andrew Rolandson, and another farm consisting of two hundred and forty acres south of the original place was purchased. There was only a log house on this second farm, but Mr. Bondy built a good house and barn and other substantial outbuildings. He lived on the farm until his death, in the meantime having erected a good house, which is still standing. He became one of the largest and most influential farmers in this community and was prominent in the educational and religious affairs of the county.

The late Knut W. Bondy served two terms as a member of the state board of equalization, having been appointed first by Governor Nelson and later by Governor Klough. He resigned finally and was elected to the Legislature in 1902, serving during the session of 1903. He was re-elected in 1904 and served during the session of 1905. In the Legislature he was prominent in many lines, and his voice carried great weight in the party councils. In his early life, he served at one time as a deputy sheriff. For two terms he was president of the Battle Lake Wheat Association and was also a director of the Sverdrup Insurance Company. At the time of his death, November 15, 1908, he was a director in the Synod Lutheran church.

Knut W. Bondy was married on February 8, 1869, at Wheeling, Minnesota, to Anna Gurine Osmundson, a native of Nerstrand, Norway, where she was born on September 13, 1850. Mrs. Bondy is the daughter of Gudmund Osmundson and came to America in 1854. She settled in Rice county, Minnesota, where she and Mr. Bondy were married. Her father and mother died in Grant county, Minnesota.

Mr. and Mrs. Knut W. Bondy were the parents of nine children, as follows: Caroline, who married Andrew Rolandson and lives in Roland, Minnesota; Wilhelmina, who married Nels B. Thompson and lives in Dane Prairie township; Ellen, who died at the age of eighteen; Wilhelm, who was a traveling salesman, is now engaged in the real-estate business at Makoti, North Dakota; Konnow, who conducts a general store at Roland, Minnesota; Alfred, who is a graduate of the Park Region Lutheran College and who is

a salesman at Battle Lake; Sophia, who was educated in the Park Region Lutheran College and the Moorhead Normal School and taught school for five years, married Oscar Henry and lives on the homestead farm with her mother; Iver, who was married on November 15, 1915, resides at Roland, Minnesota; Melvin, who graduated from the Park Region Lutheran College, is in the mercantile business at Roland and is postmaster at that place.

The late Knut W. Bondy was progressive by nature, public spirited and devoted both to his public and private duties. He was a prominent citizen, charitable to a fault and generous to his friends. He gave liberally to religious enterprises and was a leader in the movement which resulted in the construction of a new church. He also contributed liberally to the support of Park Region Lutheran College, at Fergus Falls, where some of his children were educated. He was a hard-working, conscientious man and a good citizen, who lived to see his children all well educated and well started on the highway of life.

NELS A. KNUDSON.

Agriculture has been an honored and fundamental vocation from earliest times, and has attracted men of energy and ability. By its daily contact with nature in out-of-door life, husbandry cultivates those traits of character which contribute to real manhood, and lays the foundation for success in after life. The boy, therefore, who is born on a farm is fortunate, especially if by reason of the ambition within him he makes the most of his opportunities. A striking example of this is found in the biography of Nels A. Knudson, a prosperous farmer of Elmo township, who was born in Norway on October 4, 1863, the son of Knud Anderson and Johanna Nelson, both of whom were natives of Norway, where they lived and died.

Knud Anderson was born in Bergen, and his wife was born thirty miles north of that town. There they were married, and he farmed on his own land. He passed away in 1889. After the death of his first wife, who passed away in 1865, he again married. By his first marriage he had five children, Annie, living in Norway; Lena, Martha, Nels, and John, who died in infancy, of whom Nels was the fourth born. By the second marriage, three children were born, these being Johanna, Christiane and Andrew.

Nels A. Knudson received a good common schools education in Bergen, then for seven years he worked in a woolen factory, three of these years doing farm labor in addition to his factory work. At the age of twenty-nine he came to America and found employment on a farm in this county. The following year he bought eighty acres of wild, uncultivated land in section 11, of Elmo township, and built there his first home, a log cabin, the material for which he himself cut and brought from the woods. This was

later replaced by a modern frame dwelling. He continued general farming on this and eighty acres additional land which he bought, and subsequent years not only brought success in agriculture but in business, for he became a stockholder in the Almora Creamery Company.

The year 1886 saw the marriage of Nels A. Knudson and Eliza Rasmussen. Of their twelve children, eight still live to bless their declining years. They are Knud, a street railway employee in Minneapolis; Nettie, a resident of Chicago; Hammah, who is a teacher, educated in Henning and Park Prairie; Annie, a student in the Henning high school; Amanda, who lives at home; Ragny, Martin and Della.

Mr. Knudson has been all his life an ardent Republican. Both he and his wife are members of the Norwegian Lutheran church. Mr. Knudson is considered one of the progressive farmers of his locality, and deserves commendation for the fact he is practically a self-made man. Mr. and Mrs. Knudson have many friends in the community, where in liberality and spirit they have given both means and time to their church and to the causes which mean social uplift.

GEORGE A. MEIGS.

A well-known citizen, a successful farmer and a man who has demonstrated to the township and to the county his value as a citizen, is George A. Meigs, who as one esteemed and respected in the community and as a man who has done no small part in the development of the locality and its resources, as well as being one to whom the people of the township look for leadership, in public matters, he is entitled to a leading place in the records of prominent men of Otter Tail county.

George A. Meigs was born in Trempealeau county, Wisconsin, on July 11, 1870, the son of George Patterson and Martha (Warren) Meigs, the father being born in the state of Pennsylvania, on the Susquehanna river, and the mother being born in the state of New York. Martha Warren was the daughter of Decatur Warren and wife, Decatur Warren being a farmer of the Empire state. The Meigs family were directly descended from a general in the American Revolutionary War. George Patterson Meigs, father of the subject of this sketch, following his youth in Pennsylvania, enlisted with the Twenty-first Regiment, New York Volunteer Infantry, in the year 1861, for service in the Civil War and served with that regiment until the battle of Gettysburg, the third day of which, on July 3, 1863, he was wounded in the shoulder and in the hip, resulting in his being confined in the army hospital for two years. Following his recovery, George P. Meigs returned to the state of Pennsylvania, where he remained for a short

time and then went to the state of Wisconsin, locating in Trempealeau county, and engaging in general farming on two hundred acres of land which he acquired there.

After the death of his wife, Martha, during the year 1872, George Patterson Meigs came to the state of Minnesota and located in Otter Tail county, where he bought one hundred and sixty acres of railroad land in Friberg township, on which he lived for three years. In the year 1882 George P. Meigs went to the state of Montana, where he conducted a sheep ranch. George Patterson and Martha Meigs were the parents of four children: Richard (deceased), Marvin, George A., the subject of this sketch, and a child who died in infancy. George P. Meigs was a prominent man in the public life, both in Friberg township, Minnesota, where he served as township clerk, and in the state of Montana, where his ability was recognized and he was elected to various offices of his community. George Patterson Meigs was a member of the Episcopal church.

George A. Meigs was educated in the common schools of Wisconsin, the public schools of Otter Tail county, and at the high school of the town of Fergus Falls, Minnesota, after which he taught school for a year in Traverse county, Minnesota, and then took up a position as a traveling cigar salesman for two years, then rented a farm in Otter Tail county, Minnesota, where he now lives.

On April 27, 1914, George A. Meigs was married to Margaret Streeter, and to this marriage has been born one son, George A., Jr. Margaret (Streeter) Meigs is the daughter of John Marvin Streeter, who was born in Goodhue county, Minnesota, August 4, 1856, he being the son of Mathias and Sarah (Leeson) Streeter, the father born in the state of Pennsylvania and the mother born in Ireland. Mathias and Sarah Streeter located in Goodhue county, Minnesota, in the year 1854, where they bought land and where they lived until the Civil War, when Mathias Streeter enlisted as a volunteer and was assigned to the quartermaster's department, while performing the duties of which position he contracted disease and died. Following the death of her husband, Sarah Streeter moved to Otter Tail county and lived with a daughter in Aastad township, dying some years later.

John Marvin Streeter, son of Mathias and Sarah Streeter, and father-in-law of the subject of this sketch, was educated in the public schools of Goodhue county, Minnesota, after which he came to Otter Tail county in the year 1879, and bought one hundred and sixty acres of railroad land, later buying one hundred and six additional acres in Aastad township, land which he improved and a place where his wife now lives. John Marvin Streeter was married during the year 1884 to Frances E. Carpenter, of Otter Tail county, and to this marriage were born the following children:

John Marvin, Jr., Stella, Mathias, Margaret, Thomas Gates, Erminde and Vernon. John Marvin Streeter was a devoted member of the Episcopal church, as was his well-known and highly-respected family. John Marvin Streeter died during the year 1906, mourned by a large circle of friends.

OLE KRON.

The life of Ole Kron has been and still is proof positive that obstacles become mere stepping-stones to position and wealth, when visited upon the child. With only three short months of schooling, Ole Kron has battled successfully with the confronting handicaps of education and environment and accomplished much that is worth while. His birth occurred on October 12, 1848, in Vermland, Sweden, and he is the son of P. O. and Stina Kron, both natives of Sweden, who emigrated to America in 1867 and located in Holmes City, Douglas county, Minnesota, bringing their son, Ole, with them. P. O. Kron pre-empted a small farm, later selling it to Ole Kron and his brother. Both P. O. and Stina Kron died while living in Evansville, Minnesota.

Ole Kron received two months of schooling in Sweden, but upon reaching this country he became desirous of being something more than a mere spoke in the wheel of American industry, and began reading and thinking on the many phases of life with which the worker has to cope and was soon prepared to voice his opinion for the benefit of others. One month of schooling, received at Alexandria, Minnesota, added to his two months in his native land, comprises all the opportunities he ever had for acquiring an education. Nevertheless, he has written thousands of newspaper articles on national issues, such as the tariff, finance, education and temperance and has edited several papers, one of which was the *Vesterlandet*, published in Stillwater, Minnesota, a Swedish paper. His newspaper work commenced in 1888 and has continued ever since.

In 1874 Ole Kron entered the general mercantile business in Holmes City, Minnesota, thence removing to Alexandria and later to Evansville. In 1906 he removed to Alel and became part owner and manager of the Eagle Lake Mercantile Company, in which company he still occupies the same position.

In 1875 Ole Kron was united in marriage to Caroline Myhr, a native of Norway, and they are the parents of the following children: Louise Alel, Minnie Stella, Jennie, John Emil, Othelia, Irene, Ora and Gustave Adolph.

While a resident of Evansville, Minnesota, Ole Kron was elected as postmaster of that town and served in that capacity for a period of eight

years. He was a resident of Evansville at the time of its incorporation and served as president of the first and second councils.

Among the different papers for which he has written are: *Svenska Tribunen Nyheter*, *Svenska Amerikanska Posten*, *Arvika Nyheter*, a paper published in Arvika, Sweden; the *Park Region Echo*, *Minneapolis Daily News*, the *Battle Lake Review*, *Fergus Falls Journal*, and *Reform*, a Norwegian paper published at Eau Claire, Wisconsin. Truly, Ole Kron has not hidden his talents under a bushel, nor has he forgotten the commands of his Creator that he improve the talents bestowed upon him, that his storehouse of knowledge be constantly supplied with the things needful to his best development.

ALFRED B. ROSENQUIST.

Alfred B. Rosenquist, farmer, Eagle Bend, Eastern township, this county, was born on January 15, 1865, in Sweden, and is a son of Andrew P. and Sissela Rosenquist. He came to America with his parents when about one year old, and received his education at the public schools of Wisconsin and Eastern township, Otter Tail county, and afterward attended school at Alexandria, Minnesota, for one year. As a young man he learned the carpenter's trade, which he followed for six years at St. Paul, Minnesota. In 1891 he located on his present farm, in section 35, Eastern township, which he bought in 1885, and now owns one hundred and twenty acres, on which he has put all the improvements, and where he follows general farming and stock raising. Mr. Rosenquist makes a specialty of blooded Jersey cattle, and keeps about fifteen head of dairy cows. His place is equipped with a silo and a milking machine, which facilitates the labor. Politically, he is an independent voter, and takes an active interest in the public welfare of the community. He is at present serving his second term on the school board. Religiously, he is a member of the Swedish Lutheran church. Mr. Rosenquist possesses a good capacity for business, and in addition to his agricultural interests, is filling the office of president of the Rose Co-operative Creamery Company, in the township of Spruce Hill, Douglas county.

Andrew P. Rosenquist was born on January 25, 1836, in Sweden, and his wife, Sissela Rosenquist, was born on October 16, 1838, in Sweden. Mr. Rosenquist learned the carpenter's trade in his native country, and came to America in 1860, locating in Washington county, Minnesota, where he lived on a farm for about six years, and from there he moved to Pierce county, Wisconsin, and farmed for eight years. In May, 1881, he moved to Eastern township, section 34, Otter Tail county, where he spent the remainder

of his life, following agricultural pursuits. At the time of his death he owned one hundred and forty acres of land. Seven children were born to Andrew P. and Sissela Rosenquist: Alfred B., Lizzie (deceased), Anna E., Adolph C., Joseph, Nels T. and Matilda, all of whom became members of the Swedish Lutheran church.

Alfred B. Rosenquist was united in marriage in 1893 with Lydia Johnson, who was born on June 13, 1872, and died on March 14, 1900, leaving surviving her husband and two children, Hilding B. and Edwin W.

Mr. Rosenquist is admirably filling his place in the rank and file of agricultural enterprises, and is considered one of the leading men in his line in Eastern township.

GEORGE E. TOMHAVE.

George E. Tomhave was born in Fergus Falls township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, on April 21, 1883, and is one of the younger generation who have chosen agriculture as his life work. He is the son of John Tomhave and his wife, Anna H. (Mier) Tomhave, both natives of Germany. John Tomhave was born on January 13, 1834, and died on February 9, 1907. His wife was born on August 4, 1839. They emigrated to America in 1868 and effected a temporary location of two years in Fontenac, Wisconsin, removing at that time to St. Paul, Minnesota, where they lived for six months.

In 1870 they purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land, under the homestead law, in Fergus Falls township, Otter Tail county, and continued to live on this place for six years. The place was then sold and another farm was purchased in the same township, on which the family continued to reside for fifteen years, and then sold to the son, Louis. John Tomhave had a struggle in the early years of his residence in this township and followed his trade of mason, as well as his agricultural operations. He built the first brick block that was erected in Fergus Falls and did the first mason work in Elizabeth, Mr. Mason splitting out the boards on which he plastered. In 1880 he invested in the place on which his son, George, now lives, and in 1892 he erected the present buildings. To John Tomhave and his wife were born the following children: John J., Henry A., Louis, Catherine, who is the wife of C. J. Holzbauer; Anna, who is the wife of Ed Kemnitz; Peter W. (deceased), Albert C., Carl (deceased), and George E. John Tomhave was a member of the German Evangelical church and an officer of the same.

George E. Tomhave received his education in Fergus Falls, upon the completion of which he assisted his father with the work of the home place. In 1905 he purchased eighty acres of land, which he still owns. In 1906,

together with his brother, Albert, he purchased one hundred and sixty acres in Carlisle township, which was sold in 1913. In 1910 they invested in one hundred and sixty acres more, which they divided equally, and this is devoted to general farming and the breeding of Shorthorn cattle. In 1909 George E. Tomhave was united in marriage to Alma Baumgart, and they are the parents of two children, Beverly Muriel, who was born on May 18, 1912, and Dorothy Alma, who was born on December 2, 1915. Alma (Baumgart) Tomhave was born on March 11, 1885, and is the daughter of G. J. and Hettie (Scovel) Baumgart. She is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church. In political matters, George E. Tomhave votes the Republican ticket in national affairs, but votes independently on local questions. He is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America.

EDWARD T. LUND.

A prominent and well-known man of Otter Tail county and of the town of Vining is Edward T. Lund, who as a man of business and as a citizen interested in the public welfare has been of valuable aid to the community in the development of its life and in the advancement of its measures. Edward T. Lund is a member of one of the most noted and highly-esteemed families of the entire district and has demonstrated himself to be a man capable of handling the more important matters presenting themselves for solution at the hands of the citizenship of the township and county.

Edward T. Lund was born at Lund, near Namsos, Norway, on May 11, 1853, and following his education in the public schools of his native land he was engaged as a sailor and fisherman until 1880, when he came to America and joined his brother, Andrew T. Lund, at Vining, Minnesota, with whom he lived until the death of Andrew T. Lund, in 1908. Edward T. Lund, following his emigration to this country, engaged in the business of a carpenter and a contractor, which vocation he has followed since. Edward T. Lund, during the early days of his residence in Otter Tail county, bought a farm, which he later sold and moved to the state of North Dakota, where he took up a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres of land, on which he lived for some time and then sold his holdings and returned to Otter Tail county, Minnesota, where he invested in eighty acres of land in Folden township, a place which he now owns.

During the year 1906 Edward T. Lund purchased a house and lot in the town of Vining, where he now lives.

On July 26, 1909, Edward T. Lund was married to Isabella Olson, who was born in Norway, and when three years of age came, with her parents, Elaf Olson and wife, to America, where they settled in Folden



MR. AND MRS. EDWARD T. LUND.

township, Otter Tail county, where Elaf Olson now lives. To the marriage of Edward T. and Isabella Lund was born one daughter, Boletta Margareta, whose birth occurred on October 15, 1910.

Edward T. Lund and his wife are members of the Lutheran church, where they take a leading part in the activities of that congregation. In political affiliation, Mr. Lund is a Republican.

By his pleasing ways and genial personality, Edward T. Lund has won a host of friends in Vining, and he is conceded to be one of the leaders in all moves for the betterment of life and general conditions in the locality. He is a man of various and broad experience in life, and from the benefit of these things he lends to the community a valuable element which is of appreciable value.

JOSEPH OLSON.

Joseph Olson was born on February 24, 1865, in Sweden and he is the son of Frederick and Christina (Erickson) Olson, both natives of Sweden. Frederick Olson was a farmer and followed that vocation in Sweden until his emigration to America. He was the owner of all the land which he cultivated in his native country, and after his arrival in this country, in 1871, he became an employee of a railroad company, and followed this line of work for several years, following which he located on an homestead in Eagle Lake township, Otter Tail county, where he remained until his death. He was the father of seven children.

Joseph Olson is indebted to the schools of Sweden and America for the education which he received. After the completion of his student days, he assisted his father in the work of the farm until the age of twenty-one, when he rented a farm and began agricultural operations on an independent basis. He rented the farm in St. Olaf township for a period of five years and in 1893 purchased the present farm of one hundred and forty acres, to which he has added until he now owns two hundred and fifteen acres in St. Olaf township, Otter Tail county, and one hundred and sixty acres in Eagle Lake township, same county. Both farms are devoted to general farming and stock raising. He is also a breeder of thoroughbred Shorthorn cattle. A splendid barn was built in 1914 and adds very materially to the appearance of the place.

On March 24, 1900, Joseph Olson was united in marriage to Sophie Nycklemoe, and to their union have been born the following children: Franz Joseph, Anna T., Gustaf Frederick and Arnold Alexander. In his religious views, Joseph Olson favors the creed of the Norwegian Lutheran church, and his political faith is in the Republican party.

BJORN ULSAKER.

Bjorn Ulsaker, prominent farmer, leading citizen and man of influence in Amor township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, was born in Norway, April 2, 1866, the son of Nils and Ragnhild (Jordheim) Ulsaker, natives of Norway, where the former was born, August 22, 1827. Nils Ulsaker was the son of Nils Ulsaker, a farmer of Norway, an occupation which Nils Ulsaker followed his entire life, with the exception of the time he served as a soldier of the Norwegian army, in the war with Sweden, during the years 1806-14. Nils Ulsaker was a well-to-do farmer of his native country, he being the owner of one of the valued farms of his country, a place which Mr. Ulsaker cultivated actively until his death, at the age of ninety years. The elder Ulsaker was a prominent citizen of his community, being especially prominent in the work of the Norwegian Lutheran church.

Nils Ulsaker, father of the subject of this sketch, received a good education in the public schools of Norway, being especially well trained in matters of law. After the completion of his class studies, Nils Ulsaker became a school teacher, following the duties of this profession, in his country, for about eight years. Later, Nils Ulsaker took up the work of agricultural life, being one of the successful farmers of his community. Mr. Ulsaker remained in his native country the whole of his life, he having been a man of prominence and influence as well as having been a citizen who was the occupant of various offices of his locality. Nils Ulsaker died during the month of April, 1894, survived by his widow, who now lives with a son in Norway, and by eight children, Nels, Marit, Einar, Gunvor, Ingeborg, Oline, Bjorn and Endre.

Bjorn Ulsaker received his education in the common schools and in the high school of his native locality, and in the public schools near Kindrid, North Dakota, a community to which he came from Norway when a young man in the year 1886. After some time with relatives near Kindrid, North Dakota, Bjorn Ulsaker engaged in the duties of farm life for five years, working generally on the farms of his locality, after which he became a salesman in a general store at Milnor, North Dakota. After one year in business life, Bjorn Ulsaker, in 1904, homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of land in Richland county, North Dakota, and purchased one hundred and sixty acres from the Northern Pacific Railway Company, a place which was located twelve miles from the town of Wyndmere, which was the nearest trading point. In political affairs, Mr. Ulsaker was a free Republican and was long a member of the Republican central committee. For five years Mr. Ulsaker cultivated his farm in North Dakota, and then, in 1900, he moved to Otter Tail county, Minnesota, and bought three hundred and fifty-

five acres of land in Amor township, a place which Bjorn Ulsaker has greatly improved and a farm on which Mr. Ulsaker is now successfully and extensively engaged in general agricultural pursuits.

On December 8, 1903, Bjorn Ulsaker was married to Sarah Lockstad, who was born near Dalton, Otter Tail county, the daughter of Peter Lockstad and wife, well-known people of their locality. Bjorn and Sarah Ulsaker are the parents of one child, Norah, who was born on January 5, 1905. Sarah Lockstad received her education in the home and common school and the Northwestern College, at Fergus Falls, Minnesota, and in her girl days was teaching school in Otter Tail county and Richland county, North Dakota. Sarah (Lockstad) Ulsaker is known to be a faithful and kind teacher, an intelligent woman and true Christian.

Bjorn Ulsaker has taken an active part in public matters and in the official life of the communities where he has been a resident. While a citizen of Richland county, North Dakota, Mr. Ulsaker served as township treasurer for twelve years, was assessor for three years, and during a period of ten years he was president of the board of education. He served as Sunday school teacher while in Richland county, North Dakota. As a citizen of Amor township, Otter Tail county, Bjorn Ulsaker has been a notable participant in all movements and measures having for their object the advancement of the community general interests, or the promotion of the general welfare. In religious affiliation Mr. Ulsaker is a member of the Norwegian Lutheran church, a congregation in which he is an appreciated and honored communicant for his part in the work and worship of this denomination.

CHRISTIAN A. HANSEL.

It is a difficult task to undertake to do justice to a prominent citizen in a limited space. In briefly presenting the facts contained below, it is hoped that a fair idea may be presented to the reader, concerning the gentleman whose name initiates this sketch.

Christian A. Hansel, farmer, Dalton, Tumuli township, Otter Tail county, was born on February 25, 1873, in the township where he still resides, and is a son of Anders C. and Randi (Olson) Hansel. Anders Hansel was born on February 3, 1837, and died on August 15, 1906. His wife, Randi, was born on September 16, 1836, and died on April 1, 1895. Christian A. Hansel was educated at the district schools of the township, and as a young man he began farming for himself on the place which he has owned since 1896, consisting of one hundred and sixty acres, where he follows general farming. Politically, Mr. Hansel has long been an independent voter. In religion, he belongs to the Norwegian Lutheran church.

Anders and Randi (Olson) Hansel were born in Norway, where Mr. Hansel was a day laborer. They came to America in 1867, locating on the farm now owned by Christian A., in Tumuli township. They had very little of the goods of this world, and struggled hard to get a start, but through industry and thrift they became quite prosperous. The children born to this union were: Surianna, Christian A., Anna and Emma.

Christian A. Hansel was united in marriage in 1906 to Carrie Fossen, daughter of Simon Fossen, which union has been blest with three children, Arthur, born on December 15, 1907; Clara Bell, born on April 26, 1910, and Alice, born on April 13, 1914.

Mr. Hansel and his wife have long enjoyed a deserved popularity in the township where they reside. They are affable and genial in disposition and have won and retain the friendship of the entire community.

MRS. AUGUSTA (NORDBERG) SUNDBERG.

Mrs. Augusta (Nordberg) Sundberg is the widow of Olof Sundberg, deceased, who was a prominent resident of Otter Tail county for over thirty-five years. She is able to talk as an authority on the pioneer life in this section of the state, having played a useful part in the early agricultural development of the community in which she now resides. In a story of the life of her whose name initiates this sketch, it is consistent to give a brief account of Olof Sundberg, who was born in Sweden on the 4th of December, 1842. He was the son of Matson Sundberg, a native of Sweden, who spent his whole life in the country of his nativity. The Sundberg family has always actively united with the affairs of the Lutheran church. Olof Sundberg was educated in the common schools of Sweden and came to America in 1866. He located first at Lake City, Minnesota, and for a short time followed the occupation of tailor in Lake City. Three years after his arrival in Minnesota he went to Fergus Falls, where he took a homestead claim of one hundred and sixty acres, in Buse township. After six years of untiring labor spent in developing this tract of land, which was in a wild state, Mr. Sundberg traded the farm for eighty acres of land in Amor township, this county, where his widow continues to reside.

On the 20th of February, 1870, Augusta Nordberg became the bride of Olof Sundberg. Augusta Nordberg, who was born in Sweden on the 30th of March, 1850, is the daughter of Lawrence Nordberg, who came to America after the death of his wife in Sweden. Although natives of the same country, Mr. and Mrs. Sundberg never met until they were established in residence in America, Mrs. Sundberg having come to this country alone in 1869. She became the mother of the following children: William,

Alfred, Alfreda, Oscar; David, who married Christina Berglund, a native of Sweden, and who is the father of one child, Gladys; Osea, Hgelmer, Edward, Richard and Agnes.

Olof Sundberg passed away on the 23rd of June, 1904, and since his death his sons, Osea and David, have assumed full management of the farm. They have used every effort to make the farm stand for modern methods of improvement and, in addition to a number of repairs, have erected on the place a barn which is round in form and which stands as the only one of its kind in that section of the county. The land extends over an area of two hundred and seven acres, and is kept in an excellent state of cultivation.

In a brief summary of the life of Mrs. Sundberg only a few of her many accomplishments as a mother and a friend can be mentioned; suffice it to say that the influence she has had upon members of her family, as well as upon the community at large, has not only been inspiring but lasting. The rough ordeals of her life during the early pioneer days in this county, when her husband fought the obstacles of a life in the wilderness, only broadened her sympathy for human nature and strengthened her beauty of character. Mrs. Sundberg has always been a consistent member of the Baptist church and her husband before his death had membership in the Mission church.

JONAS NELSON.

In Eagle Lake township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, few men have taken a more active part in general affairs and for the promotion of the general welfare than has Jonas Nelson, successful farmer and extensive stock raiser. Interested in these things which work for the material progress of the community and giving of his time and effort in church work for the advancement of the moral life of the vicinity, and giving of his training and experience towards the instruction of the youth in the locality, this worthy citizen is one who has an important place in the social and official affairs of Otter Tail county.

Jonas Nelson was born in Sweden on March 25, 1840, the son of Nels Martinson and Anna Hokinsdalter, who were natives of Sweden, in which country Nels Martinson was a farmer until his death, in 1873. In the family of Nels Martinson and Anna Hokinsdalter were nine children, three of whom came to America.

Jonas Nelson received his education in the public schools of Sweden, in which schools he served for a time as deputy schoolmaster. In 1869 he came to America, where he worked for about two years on the railroads and in the harvest fields, afterwards coming to Otter Tail county, in the year

1870. In 1871 he took a homestead of eighty acres of land in Eagle Lake township. With the aid of a brother and a yoke of oxen, which were their joint possession, they broke up the soil, built a log house, twelve by fourteen feet, where they lived and engaged in general farming, their efforts meeting with success. Jonas Nelson prospered and he now is the owner of two hundred acres of well-tilled and well-improved land, on which he follows a general agricultural life, together with dealings in live stock which he raises on his farm.

On December 31, 1880, Jonas Nelson was married to Celia Person, and to this marriage have been born the following children: Garfield (deceased), Andrew S., Paulina, Joseph, Elemor Charlotte, Victor, Hilda M. and Carl Julius.

In church circles Jonas Nelson is known as a leader and as an active and successful worker in the Swedish Lutheran church, he having occupied nearly all of the offices of this church, and for more than seven years has been a popular and efficient teacher of the Sunday school. Politically and officially, Mr. Nelson also is prominently affiliated. For ten years he served satisfactorily and efficiently as justice of the peace, and for some years he has filled the office of township clerk. He has also served his township as assessor. In 1880 he was census enumerator; in 1890 he also filled the same office. Wherever called upon, or in whatever capacity, Mr. Nelson has been willing to serve, even to the point of sacrifice, as a result of which he has won the esteem and gratitude of the township and county.

JOHN C. WILL.

John C. Will, prosperous and well-known farmer of Otter Tail county, Minnesota, where he has lived for many years and during that time has so lived and served his locality as to win the respect and esteem, as well as the appreciation of the community people, for the part that he has taken in the works and activities of the township and county, was born in the state of Wisconsin, July 11, 1872, the son of John and Albertine (Buss) Will, both of whom were born in Germany, where they lived until coming to America. On reaching America John Will located in the state of Wisconsin, where he worked in a saw-mill for some time. In the year 1878 he came to Otter Tail county, Minnesota, and homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of land in Western township, later adding to his possessions until he was the owner of six hundred and forty acres of land in this county. John Will, Sr., now lives in retirement on the home place, which is now operated by his son, John Will, Jr., the subject of this sketch. Albertine, the wife of the elder Will, died during the spring of the year 1915. To the marriage of

John and Albertine Will were born four sons, Richard, August, John and William.

John Will, Jr., the subject of this sketch, was educated in the public schools of Otter Tail county, after which he worked on the home farm of his father, a place which he later acquired and where he is now engaged in general farming pursuits and in the breeding of Percheron horses and Red Polled cattle.

During the year 1901, John C. Will was married to Sophia Winter, who was born in Germany, the daughter of Fred Winter and wife, natives of Germany, who came to America and located in Orwell township, this county. John C. and Sophia Will are the parents of five children, Fred, John, Ida, Emma and Elsie.

John C. Will and his wife are members of the German Lutheran church in Western township, and are people who take an active and important part in the work and worship of this congregation. Mr. Will has taken no especial part in the public life of Otter Tail county, but has preferred to serve well and dutifully as a common citizen of the community.

NILS HUSE.

Among the well-known farmers of Tumuli township, this county, who have taken an active interest in the development of the community and its resources, is Nils Huse, a man who, coming to America from a foreign country, has made himself a strong and worthy part of the country of his adoption, serving his township and county as a good citizen, and standing ready with his aid and effort in the movements and projects for a greater community.

Nils Huse was born in Norway on August 19, 1861, the son of Christian and Ingebor (Peterson) Huse, both of whom were born in Norway, where the father was a farmer until his death and where the mother now lives. Nils Christian received his education in the public schools of his native land and afterward, when twenty-one years of age, he came to America, going immediately to the neighborhood of Hillsboro, North Dakota, where he was employed for some time and then came to Otter Tail county, where he was engaged at general work, following which he, in the year 1895, bought two hundred acres of land in Tumuli township, Otter Tail county, a farm which he has improved and where he now makes his home, engaging in general farming pursuits.

On June 22, 1895, Nils Huse was married to Mrs. Hannah Torwik, who before her marriage was Hannah Quinlog. To the marriage of Nils and Hannah Huse were born five children, Clifford, Noble and Norah,

living, and two boys deceased. Mrs. Huse by a former marriage is the mother of one daughter, Mabel.

Nils Huse and his wife are members of Tumuli township Lutheran church, being well known and highly-respected people of the congregation.

Politically, Nils Huse has not been especially active, but has been a citizen of whom the locality need not be ashamed, and one who has done no small part in the making of Otter Tail county and Tumuli township a habitable and desirable community.

THORWALD H. FROSLEE.

Few men in Otter Tail county have attained the prominence in business life and in official and political circles as has Thorwald H. Froslee. A native of Norway, who on coming to America, has mastered those things to which he has applied himself and a man who in the conduct of his affairs and the duties of public office has shown his capacity for the greater things of life, he is among those citizens of real value to the community.

Thorwald H. Froslee was born near Christiana, Norway, on October 30, 1865, the son of Hans and Ingeborg (Gjefsen) Froslee, both of whom were born and lived in Norway their entire life. Hans Froslee was a farmer and landowner of his native land and spent his days caring for his interests until, at the age of sixty-eight years, he died on December 9, 1894, his wife, Ingeborg, surviving him until the year 1913, when she died, at the age of seventy-seven years. Hans and Ingeborg Froslee were the parents of the following children: Mons, who lives on the home place in Norway; Anders, who lives on a farm, formerly owned by his father, in Norway; Thorwald, the subject of this sketch; Michael, who is a merchant at Vining, Minnesota; Hans, who is a farmer at Regents, North Dakota; and Carolina, who is a school teacher in Norway.

Thorwald H. Froslee was educated in the "middle school" of Norway, an institution similar to the academy found in this county. At the age of nineteen years, Thorwald Froslee completed his schooling and helped his father until the year 1886, when, being twenty-one years of age, Mr. Froslee came to America, landed at New York City on July 11 and went to Spring Grove, Minnesota, where he worked for a time in the harvest fields and later was employed at Threshing in Fillmore county, Minnesota, after which he went to Des Moines, Iowa, and followed the business of a clerk until the spring of 1887, when he came to Vining, Minnesota, in Otter Tail county, and has lived here since, with the exception of three months' residence, in 1890, in the state of Montana. On coming to Vining, Minnesota, Thorwald H. Froslee engaged for some time in general employment with the farmers of the community, helping them in clearing and grubbing their land.



MR. AND MRS. THORWALD H. FROSLEE.

Later, having received a sum of money from home, in 1888, he established himself in the business of general merchandising with Mons G. Hoff, under the firm name of Hoff & Froslee, a business in which he continued for one and one-half years and then sold his interest to his partner, Mr. Hoff, and went to the state of Montana, where he lived for three months. In 1890 Thorwald H. Froslee became the wheat buyer for the Farmers Elevator Company, at Vining, Minnesota, a position which he held until the year 1893, when he bought the interest of Mons G. Hoff, in his former general store, and was the sole proprietor. In the spring of 1892 Michael, the brother of Thorwald Froslee, came to America, and was taken as a partner in the firm. During the year 1894, Thorwald H. Froslee returned to his native country of Norway, leaving his brother in charge of the store. In September, 1894, Mr. Froslee came back to Vining and continued in business with his brother for the next eleven years. Thorwald H. Froslee, during the year 1899, erected the Froslee grain elevator, and conducted this business, together with his general store, until 1914, when he closed the elevator and rented the Farmers elevator, which, for the next year, he conducted and then returned to the management of the Froslee elevator, which he now controls.

Thorwald H. Froslee has taken a conspicuous part in the conduct and organization of the more important business and industrial interests of Otter Tail county and of the town of Vining, Minnesota. Mr. Froslee was one of the organizers of the Vining Co-operative Creamery Company, of which corporation he is now the manager and the secretary, and he has done much in the promotion of business prosperity by the investment of sums of money in those ways which would be of general benefit to the locality. Thorwald H. Froslee is a large owner of real estate in Canada and in Otter Tail county, Minnesota, and has filled an important place in real-estate circles of the districts in which his holdings are to be found. He was the owner of a great part of the land on which the town of Vining has been built, and is the owner of a well-cultivated farm bordering on the city.

In official and political life, Thorwald H. Froslee is no less conspicuous than in business circles. Mr. Froslee, in 1896, was honored by his election to the high office of a member of the state Legislature, in which body he served as a candidate of the People's' party. Mr. Froslee, in more local affairs, has served with his characteristic efficiency in several offices, among which was a seat in the Vining city council and the occupancy of the office of city treasurer. No truer evidence of the position of Thorwald H. Froslee in his community can be found than the appointment of this leading citizen to the coveted office of postmaster, an office to which Mr. Froslee

was appointed by President Wilson and Postmaster-General Burleson, on December 11, 1914, and an office in which this worthy man is proving his competency and his ability.

On November 7, 1898, Thorwald H. Froslee was married to Olena Greftegreff, who was born near Christiana, Norway, the daughter of Ole Greftegreff and wife, who lived and died in their native land of Norway. Thorwald H. Froslee, on January 2, 1913, suffered a great loss in the death of his wife, who died while undergoing a surgical operation. To Thorwald and Olena Froslee no children were born.

Thorwald H. Froslee is a man of Otter Tail county, who at all times has found satisfaction and pleasure in serving his community and a man who in the unselfish conduct of his affairs has done no small part in making the town of Vining, Minnesota, one of the most thriving of the smaller towns to be found in the entire state. A man active in all movements having for their aim the public goods and a man who after the busy affairs of the week finds time and disposition to serve well and conscientiously the United Lutheran church, of which he is a member, he is today a citizen whose position is second to none in Otter Tail county.

ERIK WILHELM ERICKSON.

Among the farmers who have taken an interest in the development of Otter Tail county, and in the promotion of its life and its activities to a more advanced and progressive position, and a man who from his busy life has found time to serve his township in public office and as a leader in political and community life, is Erik Wilhelm Erickson, who was born in Sweden, on April 6, 1875, the son of Erik and Matilda Anderson, both of whom were born in Sweden, where Erik Anderson now lives, his wife having died some years ago. Erik Anderson is the son of Andres Orinson and wife, Andres Orinson being a farmer in his native country. Matilda Anderson was the daughter of Johan and Ellen Johnson, Johan Johnson being a farmer and landowner of Sweden, in which country he was born. Erik Anderson, father of the subject of this sketch, was a farmer, and was the father of two children, Sarah, who lived and died in Sweden, and Erik Wilhelm.

Erik Wilhelm Erickson was educated in the public schools of Sweden, after which, at the age of eighteen years, he came to America, and went to the city of Minneapolis, Minnesota, near where he secured employment for the next four years on farms in the forests, and also worked on the railroads of the district. In the year 1898, Erik Erickson bought a farm in section 11, Wilken county, Minnesota, where he lived for four years and then came to Otter Tail county, where he purchased two hundred acres of

land in Western township, where he has since lived, after placing on his land various improvements and buildings.

In 1900, Erik Wilhelm Erickson was married to Hilda Steen, who was born in Norway, the daughter of Berthus and Youndena Orstand, the mother being deceased and the father now living in Norway. Berthus Orstand is the son of Donald and Johanna Berterson, who were farmers and fishers in Norway, where they died. Youndena Orstand was the daughter of Joha and Ellen Johnson, who were landowners and extensive farmers of Norway, where they lived their entire lives.

Erik and Hilda Erickson are the parents of six children, Ellnora Charlotta, Blanche Joy, Lloyd Ezra, Allan Jerald, Ella Hazel and Willy Milton.

In church and religious affiliation Erik Erickson and his family are members of the Norwegian Lutheran church, and take an active part in the work and worship of this congregation. Erik Erickson has served his township in several important school offices, filling the positions in an efficient and business-like manner.

WINFIELD W. GOULD.

In a state like Minnesota, where the greater part of the land is used for agricultural purposes, the man who can successfully meet the great competition in his field of endeavor and bring returns of substantial profit from the soil, deserves a place in the annals of the county in which he lives. Such a man is Winfield W. Gould, who has been a resident of Otter Tail county for a period of over forty years, and who by his noble attributes of character and his ability to enter upon all affairs that go to uplift the community in which he lives, has attained a position of influence and prominence.

Winfield W. Gould was born in Washington county, Wisconsin, on August 29, 1852. He is the son of George and Eleanor (Sherman) Gould, who are numbered among the early settlers of the West. The mother of Winfield Gould was the daughter of Jacob and Rhoda Sherman, the former of whom was a native of England. Upon his arrival in this country, Jacob Sherman settled in New York, in Herkimer county. His first move to the West brought him to Fillmore county, Minnesota. In 1860, Mr. Sherman came to Otter Tail county and settled in Everts township, where he experienced the dangers and the hardships of early pioneer life. His love of simplicity and plain methods of living, however, offered him a means of contentment in his later days and he died in Otter Tail county, not unhappy that he had chosen a vocation of toil. His wife spent her last days in the town of Maine, Otter Tail county, with a son, where she passed away. The

father of George Gould was a native of England who came to America and settled in New York. He was returning to the British Isles on a business trip when he lost his life at sea. His wife remained in New York where she died.

George Gould, the father of Winfield Gould, was born in the state of New York on January 18, 1819, and Eleanor Sherman Gould, who later became his wife on December 25, 1844, was a native of the same state, having been born there on August 5, 1821. In 1848 they moved to Washington county, Wisconsin, bought and cleared up a timber farm which he sold in 1857 and came to Fillmore county, Minnesota, where they lived until 1868. The last change of residence made by Mr. and Mrs. Gould was in 1868, when they came to Otter Tail county, where they lived to enjoy the prosperity of well-directed lives. The trip to the county where they spent the last days of their lives was picturesque. In those days the scanty furniture with a few provisions and household necessities were placed in a covered wagon and hauled by a team of oxen. Upon his arrival in Otter Tail county Mr. Gould began at once the task of homesteading one hundred and sixty acres of land which he gained possession of. The land was part prairie and part timber. He first built a log cabin and later a frame house and cultivated the farm until his death, which occurred on April 14, 1895; his wife survived him until September 17, 1898. Mr. Gould was a popular member of the Republican party, and held a number of township offices, where he served the party of which he was a member, earnestly and conscientiously. Mr. Gould was also deeply solicitous regarding religious affairs, especially in the Reorganized Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints. The first marriage of Mr. Gould was contracted on December 31, 1840, with Amanda Williams, who became the mother of two children: George, who lived with Winfield Gould until his death, which occurred on March 11, 1911, and Jane, the widow of Thomas Crane, who lives in Independence, Missouri. By his second marriage Mr. Gould became the father of the following children: Roseltha, the widow of William Corliss; she later married Orris Albertson, and is living at Battle Lake; Clayton, who is living a retired life in Independence, Missouri; Winfield, the subject of this sketch; Eleanor, who is the wife of Lurett Whiting and who lives in Clitherall village, Otter Tail county, and Emma, who married William Oakes, and is now living in Canada.

From early childhood Winfield Gould was prepared for a life on the farm and was educated in the public schools. At an early age he entered upon the task of homesteading in Everts township, where he had come into possession of eighty acres of prairie land. The occupation required more than an ordinary amount of physical strength and mental ability, and Mr.

Gould grappled with the obstacles and conquered the primeval conditions in the midst of which he toiled. In 1901 Mr. Gould sold this tract, consisting of eighty acres, and bought one hundred and sixty acres in section 1, Clitherall township, which touches the shores of Battle Lake as well as Clitherall lake. Since the time of his purchase, Mr. Gould has erected a residence, barn and a number of smaller buildings on the farm land. He has been occupied with no special line of agriculture, but devotes his time to general farming.

In his political relations, Winfield Gould has followed the example of his father, who was a prominent Republican. Mr. Gould works with untiring energy for the good of the party of which he is a member and as a reward has held a number of offices. He has not only served as supervisor and assessor in Everts township but he has also held the position of treasurer of the school board in the same township. Mr. Gould is a member of the Reorganized Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints.

On July 7, 1875, Mr. Gould was united in marriage to Ella Whiting, the daughter of Lewis Whiting, who was widely known as one of the early settlers in Otter Tail county. To this union the following children have been born: Leon, who is a farmer residing at Bemidji, Minnesota; Winfield, who died when he had reached the age of manhood; Maude, the wife of P. A. Sherman, who is now living in Independence, Missouri; Hallie, Iva and Gladys, who are teachers in Clitherall township; Ethel, the wife of Frank Tucker, who resides at Dear Creek, and Nina, the wife of Orrison E. Tucker, of Clitherall.

WILLIAM MORROW.

William Morrow, born in Ireland, August 8, 1846, was the son of Thomas and Mary (Lackey) Morrow, both natives of Ireland. William Morrow was named for his grandfather, William Morrow, a farmer of northern Ireland. The Morrows were members of the Presbyterian church and very active in its affairs. The elder William Morrow never came to America. Thomas Morrow, father of the subject of this sketch, received his education in the common schools of his native country. After his marriage he and his wife rented a piece of ground which they tilled for a number of years. In the year 1853 they decided to try their fortunes in the New World. After reaching New York City they proceeded to Wisconsin. Owing to the lack of funds the son, William, was left with an uncle in New York. The Morrows located near the town of Troy, Wisconsin, where the father worked by the day. Thomas Morrow was the father of the following children: Mary Jane, Isabelle (deceased), William, Esther and Joseph. All but William live in Wisconsin. The father died in 1866 and the mother in 1894.

William Morrow received most of his education in New York City while staying with his uncle, James Morrow. William Morrow enlisted as a soldier in the Civil War, where he fought for eleven months with Company L, First Wisconsin Heavy Artillery. At the time of the assassination of President Lincoln he was stationed at Arlington Heights. On the night of the fatal shooting he was mounted on a horse and given instructions to shoot anyone he met in the road without warning, as he was carrying dispatches to headquarters.

William Morrow sent home to his father in Wisconsin some four hundred dollars saved from his pay in the army. With this money his father purchased a little home of four acres near the town of Troy, Wisconsin. After some time William joined the family at Troy. He worked on a farm to the time of his marriage to Caroline Rawson, May 29, 1873. Mrs. Morrow is the daughter of Lorenzo and Sallie (Folensbee) Rawson, the former of whom was a native of the state of Vermont and the latter a native of New York. Lorenzo Rawson was twice married. His first wife was Mary King and to this union the following children were born: Helen, Lorenzo, John, Carlos and Flora. Of these children, John and Lorenzo were veterans of the Civil War, John having served four years and Lorenzo one hundred days. The children of Lorenzo and Sallie (Folensbee) Rawson are: Caroline, wife of William Morrow, Emma and Jennie. Lorenzo Rawson, the father of Mrs. William Morrow, was an active member of the Methodist Episcopal church and always took an active part in the song service. He was born on May 22, 1810, and died on October 16, 1907.

William Morrow, after his marriage, rented and farmed his father-in-law's farm of two hundred and twenty acres, for seven years. He then removed to Mower county, Minnesota, near the town of Austin. In 1881 he came to Otter Tail county, where he purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land in section 24, Otter Tail township. He later added to his first purchase until he had four hundred and sixty acres, but he later sold one hundred and sixty acres. The land was all purchased in the undeveloped stage and by hard work and industry he has made it into a well-cultivated farm. He has placed all the improvements on the farm, the house he built in the year 1904. The barn he had built some five years before. Mr. Morrow and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal church. Mr. Morrow has been president of the town board for years. He was secretary and treasurer of the school district and is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. Mr. and Mrs. Morrow are the parents of the following children: Minnie, Vernon, Lorenzo, Frank, Olive and Clayton. Minnie and Frank are deceased.

JENS P. BERGER.

One of the best known farmers of Dane Prairie township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, and one of the most successful farmers in this part of the county is Jens P. Berger, a native of Norway, born at Aamodt, Osterdalen, on December 27, 1861.

Jens P. Berger is a son of Peter Jensen and Eline (Olson) Berger, both of whom were also natives of Aamodt, Osterdalen, Norway, the former on June 9, 1833, and the latter on June 6, 1830. They grew up in the neighborhood of Osterdalen, and were married there. Peter Berger was a farmer by occupation, who, in 1883, emigrated to America, and located at Fergus Falls, Minnesota. He spent his last days, however, at the home of his son, Jens P., the subject of this review, passing away, July 4, 1890. His good wife died less than a year later, on May 1, 1891. In Norway, Peter Berger had been a soldier in the Norwegian army before coming to America. There were four children in the Berger family, of whom two died in infancy. Those who survived were Jens P. and Ole, a miner by occupation, who died in Michigan about 1895.

Jens P. Berger received his education in the schools of his native land and was reared on his father's farm. He came to America alone in 1880, and after arriving in Fergus Falls on June 5, 1880, began work on neighboring farms, at which he continued for five years. After his marriage, Mr. Berger rented a farm for three years in Dane Prairie township, and in 1887 purchased a farm of one hundred and sixty acres in section 1, of Dane Prairie township. About twenty acres of the farm was cleared, and there was a small house and a log barn on the farm. At the present time there are one hundred and ten acres of the farm under cultivation. In 1915 Mr. Berger built a magnificent new barn, thirty-two by sixty-four feet, and a wing sixteen by twenty feet. The barn is thirty-eight feet high and has a hip-roof. The foundation is made of concrete and the barn is painted red. There is room in it for nine horses and twenty-six head of cattle, and seventy-five tons of hay and fifteen hundred bushels of oats can be stored in this commodious barn.

Some five years after coming to America, Mr. Berger was married to Olga Everson, a native of Norway, who was born at Frederikshald. Mrs. Berger is a daughter of Ole Everson, who died in Norway. Mr. and Mrs. Berger are the parents of six children: Peter O., a merchant of Mission Hill, South Dakota; Ole Edward, who died at the age of twenty-one years; Elise Marie. George O. and Magna Constance are living at home with their parents, while Arthur R. died at the age of eight years.

Jens P. Berger had been prominent in the educational, political and civic life of his township since coming to this country. He served twelve

years as treasurer of school district No. 43, and for two years was president of the Underwood Co-operative Creamery. Politically, he is identified with the Prohibition party. The family are all members of the Free Lutheran church, of Tordenskjold township.

IRA J. BROWN.

Among the pioneers from older communities who have contributed to the best citizenship of Fergus Falls, Minnesota, is Ira J. Brown, who as a representative of the highest type of the reliable, industrious and intelligent settler has passed many busy and productive years. A man, in all things upright, he has never lacked the largest measure of popular confidence and trust. His career has been studded with all the dramatic events found in the life of a soldier and a pioneer. There is not a phase of early American life in the West with which he is not familiar and cannot recall with the keenest memory and accuracy. And aside from this, he has a fund of war experiences, the stories of which even the greatest adventurer could not fail to be interested in.

Ira Brown, who is now living a retired life as a farmer, was born on March 5, 1844, in Hopkinton, St. Lawrence county, New York, the son of Harvey J. and Harriett (Gould) Brown. He was reared on a farm, where he received his first lessons in building those traits of character which served him so well in later years. When a young man, scarcely nineteen, he showed his patriotism by tendering his services in defense of the Union. In December, 1863, he enlisted in Company I, Seventh Heavy Artillery, United States Army, and in the year 1864 left for the front. During his term of service his experiences were varied and thrilling. Mr. Brown was taken prisoner in front of Petersburg, and for three months he was held in the Andersonville prison, during the fore part of his captivity, and two months in the Millen prison. He was finally paroled and was discharged, and came North in June, 1865.

In 1871, when many citizens were migrating to different parts of the West, Mr. Brown joined a colony that went out to Western township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota. There were over thirty people in the company and the caravan consisted of horses, cows and wagons. Most of the members of the party upon their arrival began at once the task of homesteading. Mr. Brown built a shanty, twelve by sixteen feet in dimensions, where he and his family lived for four years. The next building erected by him was a frame house, which remained the family residence for thirty-four years. Upon his retirement from the active duties of farm life, Mr. Brown moved to Fergus Falls, which was in the year 1905, and in this community he con-



MR. AND MRS. E. J. BROWN.

tinues to reside as a respected, honored and worthy citizen. He now lives at 722 Union avenue, south.

On November 25, 1865, Ira J. Brown was married to Rhoda M. Drurey, who was born on July 11, 1844. Mr. and Mrs. Brown are the parents of the following children: Eli W. and Mattie M., who were born in New York; Hattie M.; Harvey J. and Jeanette R., who were born in Western township. Eli, who lives in Grant county, married Miss Godwars, and has four children. Mattie, who married E. M. Johnson, has five children and is living in Tacoma, Washington. Hattie is the wife of W. S. Tombs, and lives in Glenwood, Minnesota, and has four children. Harvey J. lives on the home place in Western township, and is married to Gertrude Toombs; they are the parents of six children. Jeanette married H. J. Berry and lives with her husband and four children in Glenwood, Minnesota.

Mr. Brown has been intrusted with many public offices. For a number of years he served as justice of the peace and as a member of the town school board. In religious affairs he has always exemplified the deepest Christian faith and charity. He has throughout his life taken an active interest in the affairs of the Presbyterian church. He was superintendent of the Sunday school for twenty-two years and also served as an elder in the church. In 1896 he was honored with the appointment to serve as commissioner to the Presbyterian general assembly. Following the reward that has come to him after years of patient toil and cheerful giving, Mr. Brown is now enjoying the happiness which comes to those who have lived useful lives.

LARS P. OLSEN.

Among the successful citizens of a past generation in Otter Tail county, Minnesota, was the late Lars P. Olsen, who was born at Sjelland, Denmark, March 6, 1847, the son of Ole Peterson and Margaret Nelson, both of whom were born and who lived and died in Denmark. Mr. Olsen's father was a stone mason by trade, and had a family of six children: Nils, who died in Denmark; Lars P., the subject of this review; Peter, a retired citizen of Fergus Falls, Minnesota; Andrew, a farmer living in Canada; Johanna, unmarried, lives in Denmark; Stina, the wife of Anton Nelson, of Fergus Falls.

The late Lars P. Olsen was educated in the public schools of his native land, and when a young man took up farming. In 1869 he came alone to the United States, and settled first at Winona, Minnesota, where he worked for farmers in that neighborhood, and also on the railroad then being constructed through that country. Two years later he removed to Otter Tail county and worked near Crockston. He afterwards homesteaded one hun-

dred and forty-nine acres of land in Tordenskjold township, clearing the land and putting it under cultivation, as well as erecting buildings on the farm and improving it in many ways. In 1870 he purchased one hundred and sixty acres in Tordenskjold township, where he erected magnificent modern farm buildings. Later he bought eighty acres more. Here his death occurred on May 14, 1910.

In 1874 the late Lars P. Olsen was married to Stina Margerita Olsen, who was born on December 27, 1854, and who is a sister of Hans P. Olsen, mentioned elsewhere in this volume. The marriage took place on January 7, 1874. Mrs. Olsen came to America with her brother in 1869, and after a stop at Winona, Minnesota, for two years, they came to Otter Tail county, where she lived until her marriage. Mrs. Olsen's mother also came to America and died here in 1903. Lars P. Olsen and wife were the parents of eleven children, as follow: Emma, the wife of Jens P. Johansen, and they live in Tordenskjold township; Peter George, who is conducting the home farm and lives with his mother; Alice, the wife of Anton Jensen, and they live in Minneapolis; Otto, living in Montana, where he is a farmer; Thea, deceased; William, a farmer living in this township; Henry, a farmer living in Montana; Lily, who died young; Eddie, a farmer in Montana; Daisy, deceased, and Benjamin, also deceased.

The late Lars P. Olsen was chairman of Tordenskjold township for many years, and served efficiently as a member of the school board of his township. He was a member of the Free Lutheran church, as is his widow. The family is well known and highly respected in this part of Otter Tail county, where they lived for so many years.

NICK EBERSVILLER.

Nick Ebersviller was born in Germany on December 21, 1854, the son of Claud and Susanah (Schneider) Ebersviller, both of whom were natives of Germany. Mr. and Mrs. Ebersviller, with their family, came to the United States and at once settled in Carver county, where they bought fifty-seven acres of land. This they made their home until their death. Claud Ebersviller died in 1882 and Mrs. Ebersviller five years before, in 1877. They were the parents of the following children: Margaret, Peter, John and Claud, all of whom are dead; Nick, Lena and Mary.

Nick Ebersviller received his education in his native country, where he remained until he was nineteen years of age. On coming to America he settled in Carver county in the spring of 1874, where he remained until 1884, when he came to Candor township, this county, where he purchased one hundred and sixty acres in section 22. To the original farm Mr. Ebersviller added until he owned four hundred and sixty-eight acres. The

land has been highly improved, good buildings erected, until today it is one of the best farms in the township. Mr. Ebersviller remained on the farm until 1914, at which time he retired to Vergas, where he owns a substantial home.

He has always taken an active interest in public affairs and always worked for the public good. He was a member and director of the school board for twelve years and was treasurer for many years. He was also chairman of the board of supervisors for twelve years, and is at present village assessor.

Nick Ebersviller was married in 1883 to Mary Krosche, who was born in Germany, June 21, 1858, and was the daughter of Joseph and Theresa Krusche. The father died in 1864 and the widow came to Candor township in 1887, where she died in 1908.

Mr. and Mrs. Ebersviller are the parents of the following children: Louisa, Adolph, Anna, Arthur, Peter, William, Alma and Clara, all of whom are living.

Before his retirement from active life, Mr. Ebersviller sold all his land, excepting one hundred and sixty acres in North Dakota. He is a stockholder in the Farmers Creamery Company and was the treasurer for some years. His life has been a successful and an active one and he has the respect of all who know him.

CARL ANDERSON.

Carl Anderson, a farmer of Everts township, who owns a splendid farm in section 16, three miles from Battle Lake, Minnesota, is a native of Norway, where his birth occurred on December 31, 1857.

Mr. Anderson is a son of Andreas Sakkariasen and Gunhild Marie Sakkariasen, both of whom were natives of Norway, and spent their entire lives in that country.

Carl Anderson received his education in the public schools of his native land, and after leaving school came to America and settled in Minnesota in 1881, working for the Northern Pacific Railway Company until 1885. In the latter year Mr. Anderson returned to Norway, but came back to the United States in 1902, and in 1908 purchased the farm which he now owns. This farm consists of eighty acres, and here Mr. Anderson carries on a general system of farming and stock raising, in which he has met with commendable success.

In 1886 Carl Anderson was married to Gertie Christenson, a native of Norway, where her birth occurred in 1853, and to this union have been born four children, Conrad Arthur, Bertha Marie, Thora Mathilde and John Henry.

Mr. Anderson has made practically all of the improvements which are now on his farm, and within recent years has built a new house. For ten years he rented land and after buying his farm in 1908 still continued to rent land for three years. He moved to his own farm in 1913.

Mr. and Mrs. Carl Anderson and family are active and devoted members of the Lutheran church of Everts township, and take an active interest in the affairs of that congregation. Mr. Anderson is one of the foremost advocates in Everts township of public improvements. He has a host of friends in the township and community where he lives.

MARTIN EVANDER.

Martin Evander is the son of Nels Martinson and Bengta (Andresdatter) Evander, both natives of Sweden, where their entire lives were spent. Nels Martinson Evander was a village schoolmaster in his native land.

Martin Evander was born on December 31, 1839, in Stora Keopinge, Harrestad Harad, Mahmo Huslan, Skane, Sweden, and received his education in that country. After seven years as an apprentice to a cabinet-maker and carpenter in Ystad, he engaged in that vocation for some years, both in Sweden and Denmark. On December 26, 1865, the marriage of Martin Evander and Elna Pehrdsdatter was solemnized, the ceremony being performed in Ystad, Sweden. Elna Pehrdsdatter was born on November 19, 1841 in Tostrop, Ingelstad Harad, Kristianstad-lan, Skane, Sweden, and is the daughter of Pehr Pehrson and Maria Klemens, both natives of Sweden. Pehr Pehrson was employed as a groomsmen for Lord Albert Aransvard, of the Swedish nobility. Pehr Pehrson always lived in his native land where his death occurred.

Martin Evander immigrated to America in 1869, and immediately located in Eagle Lake township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, where he homesteaded a farm on which he now resides. One year after his arrival in this country he was joined by his wife and two sons. Martin Evander was the first carpenter to take up his abode in this community, and most of the buildings of the early days were erected by him, including the church, in which services are still held. He erected all of the buildings on his own farm, and constructed most of his household furniture, as well. He has continued to increase his holdings, until he now owns two hundred and sixty acres of well-improved land, which has been more than ample for the provision of the family, and a liberal education for each of the children. Martin Evander has been a modest man, and has never sought office. To the union of Martin Evander, and Elna Pehrdsdatter, seven children have been born, and their names follow: Gustave, Alfred, Erick, Huldah, Ida, Samuel and Joseph. With the exception of Huldah, the fourth child, all reside in vari-

ous parts of the United States, she only remaining at home. For the past twenty years Huldah Evander has been a teacher in the schools of Otter Tail county, Minnesota. Her education was received in the public schools and at the State Normal school.

Gustave Evander married Lucy Klemack and they reside in Wheaton, Minnesota, where he has been a druggist for the past twenty years. They are the parents of three children, Amy, Edwin and Elna. Alfred Evander married Anna Kaddock, and they reside on a farm near Diamond, South Dakota, and are the parents of seven children: Daniel, who married Muriel Lindquist and has one child, William; Dorothy, Ada, Alfred, Robert, Martin and Loyd; Erick Evander married Caroline Slocum, and they are residents of Seattle, Washington, where he is engaged as a taxidermist. They have one child, Martin Bruce. Caroline (Slocum) Evander is a descendant of General Slocum. Ida Evander became the wife of John Erickson, of Menahga, Minnesota, where he was engaged in the hardware business. They are the parents of one child, Elsa. Samuel Evander married Maud Pottenger, of Maddock, North Dakota, where he is engaged as a druggist, and is also interested in agricultural pursuits. Joseph Evander is also a druggist, and is engaged in that business in Underwood, North Dakota. He married Emma Fredrickson, and they are the parents of one child, Percy.

Martin Evander and his wife, Elna (Pehrsdatter) Evander have reared a lovely family and are rounding out a life of unselfish service, both to the community in which they have resided, and to their family. On December 26, 1915, they celebrated their golden wedding in the presence of all their children, grandchildren, relatives, neighbors and old-time friends.

ALFRED NILSSON.

Born in Sweden, October 24, 1864, Alfred Nilsson, who is a self-made man, and who has succeeded in a large measure as a farmer in his adopted country, is a son of Nils Peter Jagnuson and Johanna (Gurston) Nelson, both of whom were born in Sweden, and who died in their native land.

Alfred Nilsson was educated in the common schools of Sweden, and in 1892, when he was twenty-eight years old, came to America and settled in Sverdrup township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota. In 1895 he purchased one hundred and twenty acres of land, to which he has since added fourteen acres, making a total of one hundred and thirty-four acres which he now owns and operates. Mr. Nilsson is a general farmer and stockman, and has been very successful in this county.

On May 29, 1886, six years before coming to America, Alfred Nilsson was married in Sweden to Anna Lata, who was born in that country in 1855. To this union have been born eight children, as follow: John G.,

Anna Alfreda, Carl Fritz, Oscar Alexander, Hugo H., August R., Henry, and Otto Samuel, deceased.

Mr. Nilsson has cleared all his land since settling in this county, and has made many and various improvements on his place, and he now has one of the most productive farms to be found in Sverdrup township, where he is well known as a valuable citizen.

OLE A. AARNESS.

A man who boldly faced the responsibilities of life and who by determined and untiring energy has won for himself a place of honorable success is Ole A. Aarness, the subject of this sketch. By a straightforward and commendable course he made his way to that point where now he is of valuable aid and benefit to the community and to a place of esteem and respect in the eyes of his fellow citizens and among his associates.

Ole A. Aarness was born near the city of Kristiansund, Trondhjem, Norway, January 24, 1857, the son of Anders and Ingebor (Olsdatter) Aarness. The father and mother of Ole A. Aarness were born near Kristiansund, and there grew to maturity and were married and lived the remainder of their days in that locality. Anders Aarness was the owner of a small farm in his native land, a place which he cultivated until his death. To Anders and Ingebor Aarness were born the following children: Mary, who married Ole Vaagen, and who died in Norway, was the mother of two children, Ingebor and Olena, the latter of whom lives in America; Ole, the subject of this sketch; Frederick, who came to this country on the suggestion of his brother, Ole, and who worked on a railroad for his first summer and then went to St. Paul, Minnesota, later to the state of Oklahoma, after which time he was lost to the knowledge of his family; Anna, who married Ole Swinweg, and lives at Kristiansund, Norway.

Ole A. Aarness was educated in the public schools of his native country, after which he came to America, making the journey alone, and located at Fergus Falls, where during the year 1881 he took up work with the Great Northern railroad, following this trade in the summer and in the winter working in the northern woods. After a time Ole Aarness accepted employment with Martin Gillespie, at the New York Mills, and worked there for two years, leaving on account of receiving no pay for his services. Ole Aarness then went to Fergus Falls, Minnesota, and worked as a farm harvester for some time and then was employed on what is now the Hans Ryen place for the next three years, during the winters of which time Ole Aarness attended school, and then later returned to the employment on the Great Northern railroad, where he worked for some time. In the meantime he

had purchased a half interest, with Knut Aasgaard, in a farm of one hundred and sixty acres of land in section 26, of Dane Prairie township.

During the year 1889 Ole A. Aarness was married, on April 23, to Randi Torvig, a native of Norway, and the daughter of Martenus Torvig, who came to America and lived here about twenty years. After his marriage, Ole A. Aarness and his wife moved to the farm of Mr. Aarness, which they improved and to which later Ole Aarness added the interest held by Knut Aasgaard, his partner. Today the farm of Ole A. Aarness is one of the most modern and picturesque places to be found in the entire community. Mr. Aarness has erected a beautiful house, not far back from the road, reached by a well-designed driveway bordered with trees. Mr. Aarness and his family are members of the Lutheran church and take an active and appreciated part in the work of that congregation. In political affiliation Ole A. Aarness is a Republican. To Ole and Randi Aarness have been born one son.

Ole A. Aarness, his wife and his son are among the highly respected and esteemed people of the county and township. Their interest in, and their efforts towards, all movements for the betterment of the community are well known and they are among the appreciated residents of the locality.

JONAS GUSTAV JOHNSON.

Jonas Gustav Johnson, well-known farmer of Erhards Grove township, this county, was born in Sweden, October 26, 1857, the son of John and Gustava Person, natives of Sweden, where they lived their entire life. John and Gustava Person were the parents of eight children, Peter, John, Jonas Gustav, Carl, Mary (deceased), Andrew, Nels and Erick.

Jonas Gustav Johnson received his education in the public schools of his native country, after which he came, in the year 1882, to America and located in Otter Tail county, where he bought forty acres of land in Lida township. After two years on his farm, in Lida township, Mr. Johnson disposed of his land and then bought seventy acres of land in Erhards Grove township, a place to which he later added twenty acres of the best land in the community, which Jonas Gustav Johnson owns. Jonas G. Johnson now engages in general farming and stock raising on his well improved and modernly equipped farm.

Jonas Gustav Johnson is a prominent member of the Swedish Lutheran church at Pelican Rapids. Although Mr. Johnson is a man of public spirit and is a citizen interested in the development and promotion of the welfare of his community, he has preferred not to serve in public office but to give of his efforts as a private citizen.

MARTIN H. HEXUM.

Wise is the man who takes advantage of an opportunity when it is presented to him. Mr. Hexum, whose name heads this sketch, has possessed the foresight to accept the business chances in his career, in the order in which they were presented to him, believing this to be far more advantageous than to wait for more desirable things, all of which has resulted in his permanent financial benefit.

Martin H. Hexum was born on February 26, 1837, at Toten, Norway, and is the son of Hans and Elena (Rusven) Hexum. He was educated at the public schools of Norway, and after completing his studies he started to farm for himself in his native country. In October, 1866, he came to America and traveled to Chicago, where he spent two weeks, and from there he went to Lockport, Illinois, for three months, at the end of which time he moved to Houston county, Minnesota, and worked at the trades of carpenter and blacksmith. In 1871 he came to Carlisle, Otter Tail county, where he took up a homestead consisting of one hundred and sixty acres, bringing with him an ox team and his family. There was nothing on the place but a shanty. Mr. Hexum improved the farm and has continued to prosper until he is now the possessor of a splendid estate of six hundred acres. He has put all the improvements on his place, including a commodious residence, erected in 1894, and a good barn, erected in 1912. Politically, he is a staunch Republican, while his religious belief is with the Norwegian Lutheran church. He is a large stockholder in the Farmers Elevator Company at Carlisle, Otter Tail county.

Hans, father of the subject of this sketch, was born at Toten, Norway, and died while still a young man. He was united in marriage with Miss Elena Rusven, both of whom lived and died in Norway.

Martin H. Hexum was united in marriage, April 27, 1863, with Karine Nestrud, who was born in 1840, and died in 1897, in Houston county, Minnesota. To this union were born two children: Johanna Mary, who is living in Carlisle; and Helmer, who is a farmer in Otter Tail county. Mr. Hexum was married, secondly, January 6, 1870, to Marit Grotte, who died on May 31, 1893. Their children are: Carl, unmarried; Lena, who became the wife of Lars Krogstad; Ella, who was married to Leo Peterson; Ole, who was united in marriage with Matilda Linner; Henry, deceased; and Albert, who was married to Olga Sethre. Albert Hexum attended the Park Region Luther College at Fergus Falls, Minnesota, graduating later from the Caton College at Minneapolis, since which time he has remained on the farm with his brother, Carl, where they cultivate five hundred and sixty acres, owning in partnership one hundred and sixty acres. Albert is a stockholder and director in the Farmers elevator at Carlisle, Minnesota. To



MARTIN H. HEXUM.

Albert and Olga (Sethre) Hexum have been born two children, Mabel and Eunice.

Martin H. Hexum is one of the prominent citizens of Carlisle, Minnesota, where he is noted for his scrupulous honesty and charitable disposition towards his fellow man.

KITTEL OLSON.

A pioneer of Otter Tail county, who came to the locality when it was yet unbroken and uncultivated, and by his determined and persevering nature was able to do those things which today gives him one of the best farms of the township and a man who by his good citizenship and unselfish interest in the community and its welfare has won the rank of a leading resident and a valued citizen, the name of Kittel Olson and a review of his life are a suitable part of this work.

Kittel Olson was born in the central part of Norway, on January 27, 1852, he being the son of Ole Kittleson and Berit Ellefson, who were born in Norway, married there, and in the year 1882 came to America, to join their son, Kittel Olson, who had preceded them. On reaching America, Ole Kittleson and Berit Ellefson went to Vining, near where Ole Kittleson was employed on farms for some years, later living in retirement with his son, Kittel, until the death of the elder Kittleson, in the year 1890. Ole Kittleson was survived by his wife, Berit, who now lives near Vining, being eighty-three years of age. To the marriage of Ole Kittleson and Berit Ellefson were born the following children: Kittel, the subject of this sketch; Ellef, a farmer who lives one and one-half miles east of the town of Vining; Knut, a farmer living one-half mile north of the town of Vining; Tom, who was a farmer and railroad worker, now deceased; Ole C., who is the manager of a grain elevator at the town of Underwood; Knut, who is a farmer of the state of North Dakota; and Rev. Adw. Olson, who is pastor at Morris, Minnesota.

Kittel Olson was educated in the public schools of Norway, and when twenty-eight years of age he came to America and settled in St. Olaf township, where he engaged in general farm work for sometime and then, in the year 1883, he came to Folden township and bought a farm of one hundred and twenty acres in section 27, land which being covered with unbroken timber, he proceeded to clear and to prepare for cultivation, at the same time building a log house in which to live. After some years effort and with the addition of many improvements, among which are a new house of modern construction, and a new barn, together with other necessary buildings, the farm of Mr. Olson is among the best equipped, for general agricul-

tural purposes, of the locality. Kittel Olson engages in general farming, each year producing excellent crops and raising first-class cattle for the market and for dairy purposes.

During the year 1880 Kittel Olson was married to Oletta Peterson, who was born in Norway, the daughter of Peder Peterson and wife. Kittel and Oletta Olson are the parents of the following children: Bella, who was born on April 13, 1881, and who married Theodore Bjerke, and now lives at Ruso, North Dakota; Olavus, November 3, 1882, who is a barber at Vining, Minnesota; Peter, February 21, 1885, who died on February 27, 1885; Matilda, July 10, 1886, who died on September 11, 1889, and Clarence, October 16, 1888, who married Hilda Rakstad.

Kittel Olson has been a well-known man in the public life of Folden township, Otter Tail county, having served credibly in the office of school director and having been township supervisor. In politics, Mr. Olson is an ardent Republican. Kittel Olson and his wife are members of the Lutheran church, in which congregation they are faithful and conscientious workers.

CHRISTEN NATTESTAD.

Christen Nattestad, prominent farmer of Erhards Grove township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, was born in Norway, January 20, 1848, the son of Ole and Bertha Nattestad, both of whom were natives of Norway, in which country they lived their entire life.

Christen Nattestad received his education in the public schools of Norway, after which he came to America and located in Fillmore county, Minnesota, where he lived for four years. In 1872 he came to Otter Tail county, where he homesteaded sixty-eight acres of land. After some time Mr. Nattestad sold his first farm and bought one hundred and fifty acres of land in section 6, Erhards Grove township, a place which he improved and to which he added land until now he owns two hundred and seventy acres of the best farm land in the community. Following an active and successful life as a farmer, Christen Nattestad is now retired from the duties of agricultural life.

During the year 1870 Christen Nattestad was married to Mathea H. Weik, a native of Norway, who was born in 1847, the daughter of Hans and Kare Weik, natives of Norway, who came to America and lived in Otter Tail county for the remainder of their days. To the marriage of Christen and Mathea Nattestad have been born the following children: Bethse, Karolene, Karl Alfred, Hilda and Martha, who are deceased; and Edwin, Christena, Mena, Ole and Elmer Oscar, who are living. Mathea, the wife of Christen Nattestad, died on September 20, 1912.

Christen Nattestad has been prominent in public matters and official

life of Erhards Grove township, not only having served well and efficiently as treasurer of the school board, but in all movements having for their object the betterment of life and conditions in the community, Mr. Nattestad is interested and active. He is one of the respected citizens of the locality.

JAMES NESBITT.

James Nesbitt, well known in the commercial and real-estate circles of Vergas, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, has had a great part in the commercial activities of his community. Originally a farmer in Blue Earth county, Minnesota, but subsequently entering into a business career, he has successively engaged in mercantile and real-estate pursuits at St. Clair, and in the mercantile, lumber, implement and real-estate business at Vergas. During his successful career as a real-estate dealer, he has dealt extensively in land situated throughout various portions of western and central Minnesota and has, as a recompense for his earnest labors, become possessor of various large tracts of land situated in Otter Tail as well as adjoining counties. He is one of the owners of "Highland Stock Farm," situated in Otter Tail township; owner of four hundred and eighty acres in section 27, one hundred and twenty-five acres in section 31, one hundred and twelve acres in section 3, in Candor township; and one hundred and sixty-two acres, known as the "Lake Sybil Farm," in Hobart township, and several other tracts. His interests in Vergas are also of a marked nature and characteristic of his power and influence in his community. As one of the stockholders in the Farmers State Bank of Vergas, for two years the president of the council of Vergas, as a member of the school board when the new school building was constructed, at present the treasurer of the school board and president of the Vergas Telephone Company, he has exerted much influence and controlled large interests in Vergas.

James Nesbitt was born in Dane county, Wisconsin, January 1, 1868, the son of Andrew and Jane (Jordenson) Nesbitt, both natives of Canada. The parents of Andrew Nesbitt were early pioneer settlers to Dane county, and both lived and died in that county. Andrew and Jane (Jordenson) Nesbitt were married in Dane county and soon afterward removed to Faribault county, Minnesota, where for four years they were engaged in farming, at the expiration of which time they removed to Waseca county, Minnesota, where, and in Blue Earth county, they lived until 1903. In 1903 they moved to North Dakota, where Mrs. Nesbitt died in 1909. After the death of his wife, Andrew Nesbitt spent his remaining years with his children, William, James, Amy, Anna and Isabel, all of whom are still living.

James Nesbitt, the second child born to his parents, was reared in

Minnesota and educated in the public schools of that state. When twenty years of age he began farming in Blue Earth county and farmed there until 1900, when he sold his farm and engaged in the mercantile business at St. Clair for three years. In the meantime he had become actively engaged in the real-estate business, and while engaging in this business, bought and sold extensive tracts of land in western and central Minnesota. In 1905, however, he removed to Vergas, where for a time he engaged in the mercantile, lumber and real-estate business and where he formed a business association with C. A. Peterson, which association continued until 1910, or until he sold his mercantile interests and entered into the implement business. Subsequently, on September 14, 1915, Mr. Nesbitt sold out his implement business and devoted his attention strictly to his large real-estate interests, only, however, after having constructed a modern business building, fifty by one hundred and forty feet, made necessary because of his large business interests.

In 1890 James Nesbitt was united in marriage to Etta M. Dunsmore, who was born on February 16, 1871, in Blue Earth county, Minnesota, the daughter of Randall and Caroline Dunsmore, both of whom were pioneer settlers of Blue Earth county and who spent their last days in Forest Grove, Oregon. To Mr. and Mrs. James Nesbitt there have been born five children, Lilah, Lura, Fern, Florence, and one that died in infancy. Of these children, Lilah is the wife of A. G. Schwarzrock, cashier of the First National Bank of Perham, Minnesota.

JOHN G. RIEMAN.

John G. Rieman, one of the prominent and successful business men of Vergas, was born on April 5, 1874, in Dodge county, Wisconsin, being the son of William and Frederrika (Schlievert) Rieman, both of whom were natives of Germany, the father being born in 1841 and the mother in 1847. The parents came to Wisconsin from their native country in early manhood and womanhood, settling in Dodge county, where they were married some time after coming to their now home. They were the parents of eleven children, as follow: Herman F., August (deceased), William F., John G., Bertha, Albert, Emma, Ida, Frank, Lydia and Lawrence.

John G. Rieman was educated in the common schools of Dodge county, Wisconsin, and as a boy and young man worked on a dairy farm. He came with his parents to Otter Tail county in 1891 and made his home with them until he was twenty-seven years of age. During this time he was engaged in the cultivation and development of a farm in Otto township, adjoining that of his father. The father owned two hundred and forty-seven acres of land here, which he purchased when he came to the county and here he

resided until 1912, when he removed to Otter Tail, where he now lives a retired life. The family are members of the German Evangelical church.

The maternal grandparents of John G. Rieman emigrated to Dodge county, Wisconsin, where they died some years ago. His paternal grandparents lived and died in Germany; they both died while the father of John G. was a soldier in the Franco-Prussian War.

In 1903 John G. Rieman established himself in the grain business in Vergas and in 1913 added lumber to his growing business. Today he has one of the substantial business enterprises of his home town. He is secretary for the Co-operative Creamery Company and has served as a member of the town council.

John G. Rieman was married in 1902 to Milda McAteer, who was born in Watertown, Wisconsin, in 1881, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Simon McAteer. Mr. McAteer was an early settler in Girard township, where he took up a homestead and where Mrs. McAteer died. Mr. McAteer lived a retired life at Fergus Falls until his death, some years ago.

Mr. and Mrs. Reiman are the parents of two children, Hazel and Cedric.

ANTON KOPPERUD.

Anton Kopperud was born on April 5, 1850, in Norway, and is the son of Andrew and Johannah (Bugsted) Kopperud, both natives of Norway. The family, together with Anton, emigrated to America in 1870 and located in Illinois for one year, removing to Otter Tail county, Minnesota, in 1871, where they established a home in Norwegian Grove township.

Anton Kopperud is one of seven children born to his parents and his education was received in the schools of his native land. While still a resident of Norway he was employed as a farm hand. Upon his arrival in Norwegian Grove township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, he purchased one hundred and ten acres of land, under the homestead law, and has increased his holdings until he now owns one hundred and twenty-five acres. This well-improved farm is devoted to general agricultural pursuits and stock raising. Politically, he is a Republican and has served as township assessor for twenty-eight years. He has also served on the school board for many years and has been a trustee of the Norwegian Lutheran church for thirty-five years.

In 1879 Anton Kopperud was married to Elise Hill, a native of Norway. She was born on December 11, 1854, and is the daughter of John E. and Anne (Amundson) Hill, both natives of Norway. To the union of Anton Kopperud and Elise (Hill) Kopperud no children have been born, but they have adopted two girls, Olea, who married Ed Krare, and

Maria. John E. Hill, father of Elise (Hill) Kopperud, was born on October 17, 1831, and was married to Anne Amundson in 1854. She was born on March 23, 1829. They emigrated to America in 1870 and located for eighteen months in Iowa, removing to Otter Tail county, Minnesota, in 1872. Here they purchased one hundred and fifty-three acres of land in Sverdrup township, which they improved and on which they lived until 1909. Since that time they have resided with Anton Kopperud. To them were born these children: Elise, Carl, Edward, Anna and Otelie.

HENRY CARL DEIDRICH OTTO, M. D.

Successful in the practice of his profession as well as dutiful to the public life and welfare of Vergas is surely evidence by the large and lucrative practice as well as the faithful public service of Dr. Henry Carl Deidrich Otto. Having served as president of Vergas during 1910 and at other times as chairman of the school board and as president of the village council, he is justly entitled to the respect and success which have attended both his professional and public efforts.

Henry Carl Deidrich Otto was born in Nicollet county, Minnesota, August 15, 1885, the son of Frederick L. and Emily (Netzke) Otto, both natives of Prussia, Germany, the former born on November 28, 1842, and the latter in 1847. The paternal grandfather, Christopher Edmond Otto, emigrated from the Fatherland to America in 1856 and settled in Cook county, Illinois. Having received an excellent education in Cosline University, Germany, and having experienced teaching in the schools of his native land, upon his arrival to America he began teaching school and for a period of twenty-five years followed the teaching profession in the schools of Illinois and Minnesota. He died in Nicollet county in 1890, two years after the death of his wife. In politics, he was a Republican.

Frederick L. Otto came to Nicollet county when a lad of sixteen years of age, preceding his parents two years. Having formerly received his education in Germany, he took up farming in Nicollet county and homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of land, as did also his father. At that time there were but few white settlers in this section of the country and the region was exceedingly wild. During the rest of his life, Frederick L. Otto lived on this homestead, passing away in 1899. He was a Democrat and a member of A. K. Skaro Post No. 47, Grand Army of the Republic. His widow survives and is living at Lakeland, Jackson county, Minnesota. To this union there were born eleven children, namely: Fred, Emil, William, Herman and Henry Carl Deidrich, Maltie, Minnie, Helen, Mary, Bertha, and Olga, deceased.

Henry C. D. Otto was reared on the farm until fourteen years of age,

at which time he removed to Elysian, LeSueur county, Minnesota, and still later to Lakefield, Jackson county, Minnesota. Having received his elementary education in the public and parochial schools of Nicollet county and pursued his secondary education in the Elysian high school he entered Ansgar College, at Hutchinson, Minnesota, from which he was graduated in the commercial and academic departments. Desirous of entering the medical profession, he entered the Hospital College of Medicine, Louisville, Kentucky, and was graduated from the Louisville and Hospital College of Medicine in 1908. After serving an internship in a private hospital of Louisville, he located at Perham with a Doctor Brabec, but in the fall of 1908 removed to Vergas, where he has followed his profession ever since.

On June 10, 1914, Dr. Henry C. D. Otto was united in marriage to Alice A. Norgren, a native of Otter Tail county, born near Fergus Falls, the daughter of Andrew Norgren. To this happy union there has been born one child, Kermit Labreath.

Doctor Otto has taken a great interest in the medical circles and is a member of the County, State and American Medical Associations.

JACOB LARSON.

Jacob Larson, who is a successful farmer of Tordenskjold township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, is a native of Seeland, Denmark, where he was born on March 13, 1862. Mr. Larson is the son of Lars Petersen and Kirstine Larson.

Mr. Larson's parents were born in Denmark. His father, who is deceased, spent his entire life in his native land. His mother, however, is still living. Lars Petersen was a soldier in the Danish army and a laborer. He was a member of the Lutheran church, as is also his widow. They were the parents of seven children, of whom Jacob was the fourth. The others were: Karen, who married Mads Larson, and lives in Denmark; Christena, who married Anders Gregeson, and lives in Denmark; Christian, who lives retired in Underwood; Sophia, who is the widow of Peter Peterson, and lives in Tordenskjold township; Peter, who lives in the state of Washington, and Wilhelmina, who married Christ Jeppesen, and lives in Denmark.

Jacob Larson was educated in the public schools of his native land and in 1883 emigrated to America, settling in Otter Tail county after his arrival in America. He worked on various farms in this state and also in the state of Dakota until about 1886, when he purchased eighty acres of land in Tordenskjold township. This farm was poorly improved at the time, but Mr. Larson replaced the old buildings with substantial and modern frame structures. Only about twenty-five acres of the farm was cleared when he purchased the land. Subsequently, he purchased thirty-four acres from the

railroad and later sixty-four acres more in Clitherall township. Mr. Larson has made a splendid success as a general farmer and stockman.

In 1886, just a few years after coming to America, Jacob Larson was married to Karen Olson, a native of Denmark and the sister of H. P. Olson, referred to elsewhere in this volume. Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Larson have eight children: Louisa, who married Joe Schiller, and lives in Fergus Falls; Albina, Erwin, Henry, Dora, Carl, Amelia and Esther, all of whom live at home with their parents.

Jacob Larson is identified with the Democratic party and, as a Democrat, has served as school treasurer of district No. 257, a position which he filled most creditably. He is highly respected in the community where he lives and where he is well known.

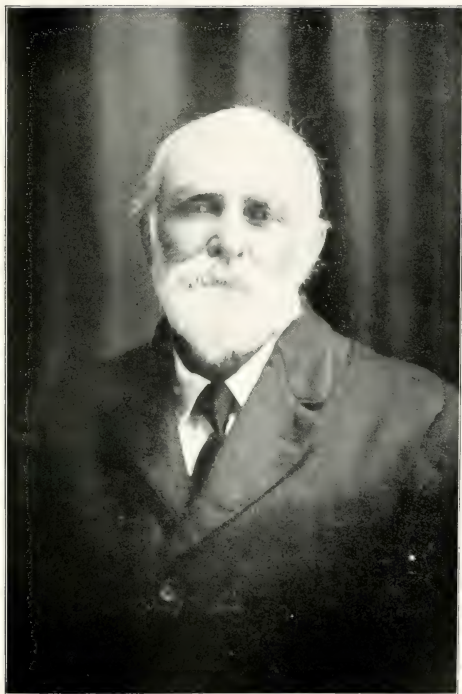
OLE T. LANGEN.

This country can hardly ever repay the debt it owes to its pioneers, to those rugged and enterprising citizens who carved out homes on our western frontier, who have cleared the forests and who have made the soil, once a barren waste, teem with growing crops and fruitful with the good things of this earth. Among these venerable pioneer citizens of Otter Tail county, Minnesota, is Ole T. Lengen, who is living retired at Battle Lake, Minnesota.

Mr. Lengen is a native of Rarøas, Norway, where he was born on January 30, 1844. Mr. Lengen is the son of Tron O. and Bertha Louisa (Larson) Lengen.

Ole T. Lengen's parents were natives of Norway. His father was born in 1822 and his mother in 1821. They grew up in their native land and were married about 1843. In 1852 they came by sailing vessel to Canada and by boat to Milwaukee, Wisconsin, where they fitted out a prairie schooner and drove to Winneshiek county, Iowa, locating about two miles southeast of where the town of Hesper now stands. Their nearest neighbors at the time were two miles away. This land was not in the market until 1853, when it sold for one dollar and twenty-five cents an acre. The late Tron O. Lengen was able to buy, in all, about two hundred and forty acres. He lived upon the farm until his death, in 1889, of pneumonia. His wife died a few months later. They were active in all local affairs in their township and county and were prominent in the Lutheran church.

Ole T. Lengen is the eldest of six children born to his parents, the others being Nellie, Annie, Lars, Peter I. and Peter II. Nellie married G. A. Hauge and died in Albert Lea, Minnesota. Annie is the wife of E. J. Lein and lives in Faribault county, near Delevan, Minnesota. Lars, who, when he was twenty years old, attended St. Olaf College and then the Decora Lutheran College, became a school superintendent and died when still a young



OLE T. LANGEN.

man. Peter I died in infancy. Peter II passed away in Faribault county, Minnesota.

Ole T. Langen enjoyed little opportunity to obtain an education. His education has been acquired largely by home study, and he is today a well-informed man, conversant with all current topics of general interest and a most interesting conversationalist. Mr. Langen was reared on a farm and was engaged in farming with his parents until 1867, when he journeyed to Douglass, Grant and Otter Tail counties, Minnesota, on a prospecting trip in a wagon. The only improvements which he saw on this whole trip through Otter Tail county were in Tumuli township, west of Ten Mile lake. The Mormons were then at Clitherall, but could not be seen because the lakes and woods were impassable. Mr. Langen bought the west half of section 10, in Dane Prairie township. He spent the harvest of 1867 with his father, and in 1868, with two other men and their wives, moved by ox team to Otter Tail county, coming by St. Peter and Sauk Center, in Stearns county. The trip took twenty-two days. These early pioneers settled in the southeastern part of St. Olaf township, in sections 12, 13 and 14. Mr. Langen's two friends settled on nearby land. There were few settlers in the township at that time, but the following year they began to come very rapidly. Mr. Langen pre-empted prairie land and began to build a log house. In the early months of their residence in this county, the three families lived together until 1869, when Mr. Langen built on his own land. He was compelled to go to Otter Tail city to get the lumber for the doors and the floors. Mr. Langen employed others to erect his buildings and, in the meantime, was able to put out a crop of sixty-five acres. He raised a great deal of wheat and was compelled to pay a very high price for threshing. As late as 1870 he had to haul the grain to Otter Tail city. There were only a few Indians in the township at that time.

As time passed Mr. Langen added barns and granaries to his farm and lived upon it until 1882. In 1867 he had bought a farm of three hundred and twenty acres in Dane Prairie township; he paid ninety-five dollars for one hundred and sixty acres of this place. Although he has never lived upon that farm he still owns it. In 1882 he moved to Battle Lake, but the previous year had established a lumber yard near the railroad track of the newly-built Northern Pacific railway. He continued in the lumber business until 1900, having added a line of farm machinery in the meantime. In 1900 he had begun to sell out his interests in preparation for retirement and, in the meantime, had purchased land in Saskatchewan, Canada.

In February, 1870, Ole T. Langen was married to Thurid J. Larson, a native of Winneshiek county, Iowa. She was born near Hesper in 1852. Mrs. Langen is the daughter of Hålgren Larson, who came to Iowa in 1852

from Wisconsin. He was a Norwegian by birth. Mr. and Mrs. Langen have been the parents of seven children, namely: Louise married John A. Wedum, of Alexandria, Minnesota; Tron and Amanda died of diphtheria, at the ages of four and seven years, respectively; Agnes died at the age of eighteen; Leonard lives in Kensington, Minnesota, where he is a lumber dealer; Bert P. is employed in a bank at Glasgow, Montana; and Lenora, who lives at home, is a student at the Stout Institute at Menominee, Wisconsin.

Mr. Langen has always been interested in the history of his county and state, especially in local history. He has always been active in local affairs from the time of the organization of St. Olaf township, in 1869, until he left the township. He was a member of the board of supervisors, and part of the time was chairman of the board. He was also school director of district No. 2, and, for many years, was the school treasurer. He also served as road overseer for a time. Mr. and Mrs. Langen are members of the Lutheran church, although they were formerly members of the Synod Lutheran church while living in St. Olaf township.

OLE J. FRANZE.

Ole J. Franze, who is a well-known farmer of Tordenskjold township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, was born twelve miles northwest of Christiania, Norway, December 7, 1852, and is a son of John and Inga (Olson) Franze, also natives of near Christiania, Norway, where they grew to maturity and were married. In 1866 the family came to America and settled seven miles from Red Wing, Minnesota. The father was ill during the first summer after coming to Minnesota, and the family suffered many hardships. Mr. Franze worked on neighboring farms for four years, and in the fall of 1870 emigrated to Otter Tail county, where he homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of land.

Of the farm which John Franze homesteaded on coming to Otter Tail county there was a log cabin standing and only four acres of the land had been cleared and put under cultivation. Mr. Franze put new floors and doors in the cabin, and lived in this house for some time. In 1897 Mr. and Mrs. Franze removed to a small farm in Clitherall township, where he is still living, at the advanced age of ninety-two years. His good wife died in 1908, at the age of eighty-seven. They were the parents of five children, of whom Ole J. is the eldest; Joseph died when a small boy; John is a farmer in Clitherall township; Peter lives with his father and is unmarried; Mary lives at home with her father.

Ole J. Franze was thirteen years old when he accompanied his parents to America. He attended the common schools in his native land. After

reaching manhood he worked on farms in the neighborhood of his home until 1877, when he homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of land in Grant county, Minnesota. After living in the latter county for twenty years, Mr. Franze sold out and removed to Otter Tail county and purchased the farm his father had homesteaded in this county. This farm is now well improved and is devoted to general farming and stock raising.

On April 1, 1884, Ole J. Franze was married to Maria Storstad, a native of Norway, and a daughter of Peter Storstad. Mrs. Franze came to America at the age of twenty-two years. She died on March 28, 1914, leaving her husband and eight children, as follow: Joseph, who is a cook by trade, lives at home; Hilda, Ida, Amanda, Peter, Oscar, Arthur and Agnes also live at home.

Mr. Franze is identified with the Republican party. He served as supervisor in Grant county, and also as a member of the school board. He is a member of the Synodical Norwegian Lutheran church, as was his good wife also at the time of her death.

CARL KLUG.

Carl Klug is one of seven children born to the union of Carl and Rachel (Bongard) Klug, and his birth occurred on September 22, 1857, in West Prussia. His parents were also natives of Prussia and their marriage was solemnized in that part of Germany. After the birth of their third child they emigrated to America in a sailing ship, and were eight weeks en route. Their arrival was in 1857 and they immediately located in Carver county, Minnesota. Carl Klug, Sr., was employed by a Mr. Hite to clear twenty acres of land and in remuneration was given twenty acres of land. This was soon cleared and eighty acres more were purchased, and this farm became the home of the family until the father's death, in 1910. The mother is still living, at the age of eighty-four years. Carl Klug, Sr., and his wife were members of the Lutheran church, and the names of their children follow: Herman is a retired farmer living in Fergus Falls; Fred resides in Fargo, North Dakota; Carl; Amelia married Carl Banke, and they live in Dora township; Augusta married Otto Paske, and their home is in East Grand Forks, Minnesota; Eugene lives on the old home place in Carver county, and Rudolph, who was a blacksmith, died at the age of thirty, in Carver county.

Carl Klug received his education in the public schools of Carver county, Minnesota, in Waconia township, and remained on the home place until twenty-one years of age, at which time he became employed as a farm hand on the surrounding farms. In 1878 he removed to Otter Tail county, Minnesota, and purchased one hundred and forty-one acres of land, under

the homestead law, in section 14, Dora township, range 41. This land was unimproved, but a log cabin was erected and the place was soon under cultivation. In 1914 the farm was sold and Carl Klug retired to the town of Vergas, where he purchased a residence and thirteen acres of land within the village corporation, on which he still lives. Politically, he is a Republican and has served as a member of the school board for fifteen years.

On February 15, 1881, Carl Klug was united in marriage to Matilda Schimmelfenig, and they are the parents of four children, whose names follow: Helma is the wife of Julius Milke, and they live in White Earth Reservation; Luella is the widow of Ernest Barker, and lives in Tacoma, Washington; Herbert is a barber living in San Francisco, California, and Amber is employed as a bookkeeper in the land office at Larimore, North Dakota. Matilda (Schimmelfenig) Klug is the daughter of John Schimmelfenig, a pioneer of Carver county, Minnesota.

HERBERT A. PUTNAM.

Herbert A. Putnam, successful farmer, prominent citizen and leader in the affairs of Amor township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, was born in Sherburne county, Minnesota, October 1, 1865, the son of Henry T. and Caroline (Newton) Putnam, the former born at Sutton, the latter at Auburn, Massachusetts. Henry T. Putnam was the son of Tyler Putnam, a farmer and prominent man of the Congregational church in the state of Massachusetts.

Henry T. Putnam was educated in the common schools of his native town, after which he left Massachusetts, in 1855, and moved to Sherburne county, Minnesota, where he purchased a farm on which he lived for some time, and then, disposing of his farm, Henry T. Putnam conducted a general supply store for two years, in Stearns county, Minnesota. Later, having sold his goods to one of the Whitings, merchants of Clitherall, he homesteaded, in 1870, one hundred and forty acres of land in Amor township, and pre-empted one hundred and forty additional acres, a place which Henry T. Putnam improved and cultivated, and a farm to which he added more land until, at the time of his death, on February 2, 1892, he was the owner of four hundred and eighty acres of choice land in Amor township, Otter Tail county. During his later life, Henry Putnam was a member of the Presbyterian church, he taking no especial part in the political life of the community. Henry T. and Caroline Putnam were the parents of the following children: Mary, Newton, Henry, Herbert and Tyler.

Herbert A. Putnam received his early education in the common schools of Maine township, after which he attended the St. Cloud Normal School

for three years and then became a school teacher, teaching for one term near Pelican Rapids, for two terms in the schools of Battle Lake, Minnesota, and for some time in district No. 69, of Amor township. Mr. Putnam now lives on the home farm and engages in general agricultural pursuits.

On December 31, 1891, Herbert A. Putnam was married to Celia J. Oakes, a native of Wright county, Minnesota, and the daughter of A. E. Oakes, and wife, well-known people of their community. To the marriage of Herbert A. and Celia Putnam have been born the following children: Henry, Helen, Carrie, Everett, Alfred and Kenneth, all of whom live at home. Mr. Putnam and his family are members of the Presbyterian church of Maine.

Herbert A. Putnam is perhaps best known in Otter Tail county as a representative of the people in the Minnesota Legislature. Mr. Putnam for four terms having served the people of Otter Tail county in that body. He has also served his township as chairman of the town board, an office which he occupied most efficiently for several years. In politics, Herbert A. Putnam was a Republican for many years, but at heart is a Prohibitionist. As a fraternal man, Mr. Putnam is a leading member of the Modern Woodmen of America, and also a member of the Royal Neighbors.

OTTO MARTINSON.

Otto Martinson is one of ten children born to the union of Martin Christianson and Olenia Halverson, both natives of Norway, who married in that country and emigrated to America in 1869. Martin Christianson immediately located on the homestead, which is now in the possession of his son, Otto, and where both he and his wife passed to their eternal rest. The original farm consisted of one hundred and sixty acres. Martin Christianson and his wife, Olenia (Halverson) Christianson, were both members of the Lutheran church in Clitherall, Minnesota.

Otto Martinson is indebted to the public schools of Eagle Lake, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, for his education, following which he engaged in agricultural pursuits. He has always resided under the parental roof-tree and assisted in the cultivation of the home place. In 1896 he purchased some land, under the homestead law, and has since added eighty acres more, which has been improved with new buildings and other things necessary to the successful cultivation of a farm. He has erected a large granary and built an addition to the barn.

In 1898 Otto Martinson was married to Lena Herness. To their union have been born eight children, namely: Mildred, Myron, Oris, Lane, Raymond, Raymond, Helen and Earlin. Lena (Herness) Martinson was born

in Eagle Lake township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, and is the daughter of Lars Herness, a native of Norway, and the first settler in Eagle Lake township.

W. F. LADWIG.

W. F. Ladwig is one of the representative and respected citizens of Vergas, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, who is identified with the advancement of the community. He is one of four children born to the union of William Ferdinand and Rosa (Hensel) Ladwig, and his birth occurred on September 1, 1881, in Sac City, Iowa. The paternal grandfather of W. F. Ladwig was Christian Ladwig, a stock dealer of Pomern, Prussia, who lived and died in his native land. He was the father of three sons: Frederick, a soldier in the Franco-Prussian War, who died in Germany; William and Albert. Albert lives in Ball, Prussia, and is a stock dealer of that town.

William Ferdinand Ladwig was born in Germany and when a young man emigrated to America. He was a farmer and stock raiser and followed that vocation until 1887, in Iowa, where he located upon his arrival in the United States. In 1887 he removed to Jackson county, Minnesota, remaining there until 1900, at which time he removed to Wilkin county, Minnesota, where he purchased eight hundred acres of land in Tanberg township. This land was virgin soil, but is now improved with modern buildings and a specialty is made of breeding and raising high grade Shorthorn cattle. He is a stockholder in the Farmers Co-operative Elevator Company, at Lawndale, Minnesota. Politically, he is a Republican and very active in local matters. William Ferdinand Ladwig is a member of the German Lutheran church and the father of four children, whose names follow: Frank is a farmer and stock raiser, and lives near Barnsville, Minnesota; W. F., the subject of this sketch; Paul is a farmer living six miles north of Barnsville, and Walter, who lives on the home place.

The maternal grandfather of W. F. Ladwig was Gotlob Hensel, a native of Swedensburg, Germany, who emigrated to America in 1868, accompanied by his wife and five children, leaving a married son in Germany. This son was a soldier. The names of the children follow: Fred (deceased) remained in Germany; William is a farmer living near Auburn, Iowa; Ernest is a farmer living near Lake City, Iowa; Bertha is the widow of John Gray, and lives in Auburn, Iowa; Rosa; Pauline is a missionary of the Methodist Episcopal faith, and resides in Los Angeles, California. Gotlob Hensel located in Auburn, Iowa, and remained there until his death, in April, 1913. He followed the vocation of farmer during his entire life. Rosa Hensel was born in Swedensburg, Germany, and emigrated, with her parents, to America in 1868. Her marriage to William Ferdinand Ladwig was solemn-

nized in Iowa, where her parents had settled. Her death occurred on March 9, 1895, in Jackson county, Minnesota. She was a member of the German Lutheran church.

W. F. Ladwig received his preliminary education in the common schools of Jackson county and Fergus Falls, Minnesota, completing his education in the Park Region Lutheran College, from which he was graduated with the class of 1907. He also took a course in Aaker's Business College, after which he accepted a position with the First State Bank in Mercer, North Dakota, as assistant cashier. He served in this capacity from 1909 until 1913. In March, 1913, he became cashier of the Farmers State Bank of Vergas, which position he still holds. This bank was originally owned by William Galvin, and operated as a private institution. In 1905 it was incorporated as a state bank, and the officers who were elected are: L. W. Oberhauser, president, who lives in Frazee; Charles W. Higley, vice-president, who lives in Chicago, and W. F. Ladwig, cashier. W. F. Ladwig is a notary public and serves his community as city treasurer. Politically, he is a Republican and a member of the German Lutheran church.

On November 29, 1911, W. F. Ladwig was united in marriage to Louise Guslander, a native of Kensal, North Dakota, and they are the parents of one daughter, Carol Rose, who was born on December 24, 1914. Louise (Guslander) Ladwig is the daughter of William Guslander.

WALTER S. FISK.

Walter S. Fisk, successful farmer and well-known citizen of Maine township, Otter Tail county, was born in Vermont, September 12, 1869, the son of Orvil T. and Salome (Bickford) Fisk, the former a native of Vermont. After his marriage in his native state, Orvil T. Fisk came to Otter Tail county, Minnesota, and homesteaded eighty acres of land in Maine township, a place which the elder Fisk improved and a farm on which he followed general agricultural pursuits during the remainder of his days. The elder Fisk was notably successful as a farmer, having acquired at the time of his death one hundred and sixty acres of the most desirable land of the community. Orvil T. Fisk was a veteran of the Civil War, having served with the colors for three years, during which time he had a part in the battle of Gettysburg, as well as in many other conflicts. Orvil and Salome Fisk were the parents of six children: Alice I., Walter S., May, Julia, Jennie, and Milo (deceased). Orvil T. Fisk and his wife were members and active workers of the Presbyterian church in their community.

Walter S. Fisk received his education in the common schools of district No. 22, Maine township, after which he became a farmer, on a farm of one hundred and sixty acres, which he secured in Maine township. Mr. Fisk

is now successfully engaged in general agricultural pursuits on his well-improved and modernly-equipped farm.

During the year 1901 Walter S. Fisk was married to Loretta Brown, who was born at River Falls, Wisconsin, the daughter of E. A. Brown, well-known people of that community. To the marriage of Walter S. and Loretta Fisk have been born two children, Edwin and Dorris.

Walter S. Fisk has taken many parts in the public and official life of Maine township and is ready to do his part in the advancement of the locality and its various interests. He has served on the town board of Maine township for ten years; also has served in other offices in the town, besides being a member of the school board in district No. 22.

MAGNUS STROBECK.

Magnus Strobeck, who is one of the well-known retired citizens of Clitherall and who is a native of Sweden, where he was born on February 20, 1841, is the son of Bengt and Eleanor Strobeck.

Mr. Strobeck's parents were both natives of Sweden. His father was born in 1804 and died in 1898 in Leaf Mountain township, Otter Tail county, and his mother was born in 1814 and died on July 4, 1860, in Washington county, Minnesota. The Strobecks emigrated to Washington county, Minnesota, May 7, 1860, and it was here that the mother died two months later. In 1871 the family moved to Leaf Mountain township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, and took a homestead of one hundred and twenty acres. Mr. Strobeck's brother, Nels, also took a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres in Leaf Mountain township. Bengt Strobeck gradually improved his farm and shortly after acquiring the homestead erected a log house. He died on this farm in 1898. There were four children in the family, of whom Peter and Oscar, the eldest and youngest, are deceased. The living children are: Mangus, the subject of this sketch, and Nels.

Magnus Strobeck was educated in the public schools of his native land. In 1860 he came with his parents to America and settled with them in Washington county, Minnesota. Two years later he moved with the family to Leaf Mountain township and himself took a homestead of one hundred and twenty acres in Nidaros township. In the beginning he had three oxen, with which to perform the work of the farm, but his claim was eventually lost. Mr. Strobeck's wife, however, had a homestead, which she had received from her first husband, Fred Brown. Mr. and Mrs. Strobeck lived on this farm until 1905, when they came to Clitherall. Mr. Strobeck now lives retired.

On January 26, 1877, Magnus Strobeck was married to Mrs. Fred Brown, whose maiden name was Mary Peterson. She was born in Sweden



MR. AND MRS. MAGNUS STROBECK



GODFRED L. STROBECK.

in 1836. After the death of her parents, she came to Moline, Illinois, in 1869, and two years later emigrated to Otter Tail county, Minnesota. To her first union there were born four children, Hulda Amelia, Florentine Elizabeth, Helena Josephine and Henry. By her marriage to Mr. Strobeck there was born one child, Godfred Leonard, who married Emily Okenson, and has one child, Evelyn Jalelin Evangeline, who was born on August 9, 1909. Mr. and Mrs. Godfred Leonard Strobeck live at Cogswell, North Dakota, where he is vice-president of the Cogswell State Bank and is interested in other banks of the state. He is also a dealer in real estate and has been very successful in business.

From the fruits of his early labors Magnus Strobeck has accumulated a substantial competence, by which he is able to live in comfort during his declining years. He has been successful in business and is a highly valued citizen of this great county.

J. EMIL NELSON.

A successful farmer and a man who by the quality of his life has made a host of friends and has won for himself a place of respect and esteem in Otter Tail county is J. Emil Nelson, who was born in Meeker county, Minnesota, September 19, 1886, the son of Hans and Anna (Johnson) Nelson, both of whom were born in Sweden, where they lived until the year 1880, and then came to America, landing at Quebec, Canada, from which they went to the state of Minnesota and located near the town of Litchfield, where Hans Nelson was employed in the town of Litchfield ten years, until his death, in the year 1890. Following the death of her husband Anna (Johnson) Nelson, with her family, continued to live near Litchfield, where she purchased a farm of one hundred and twenty acres of land, on which the family lived for ten years, after which they disposed of their land in that locality and moved to Wadena county, Minnesota, there buying one hundred and sixty acres of land in Leaf River township, a place where Anna (Johnson) Nelson and her family lived for three years, and then disposing of this land they came to Otter Tail county, Minnesota, and bought a farm in sections 26, 27 and 34, in Compton township, where they now live. To the marriage of Hans and Anna (Johnson) Nelson were born the following children: Nels Alfred, John Emil and Fritz Edwin, all of whom are married.

J. Emil Nelson was educated in the common schools of Meeker county, Minnesota, after which he, with his brothers, helped in the farming of the home farm, later J. Emil taking possession of the home place, where he now engages in general agricultural pursuits. Mr. Nelson now cultivates two

hundred acres of land, on which he produces good crops and where he has a well improved and modern farm.

On September 20, 1911, J. Emil Nelson was married to Tova Lauritzen, who is a native of Denmark, and to this marriage have been born two children, Kenneth Raymond and Lesley Emil.

J. Emil Nelson is a man who, though having taken no special part in the political or public life of the community, has been a good and capable citizen of the county, and is a man whose interest in the welfare of the life and activity of the community is unquestioned.

CHRIST J. HANSEL.

Successful farmer, public man and official, and one of the best-known men of Otter Tail county, where he has lived his entire life, Christ Hensel is one who, because of his life and his works for the general welfare of the community, has a rightful place in a work of this kind.

Christ J. Hansel was born on the Hansel homestead in Tumuli township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, on June 15, 1875, the son of John and Goro (Brekken) Hansel, both of whom were born in Norway. John Hansel was the son of Christ and Sigrid Hansel, who lived and died in Norway, where Christ Hansel was a farmer; and Goro Hansel was the daughter of Ole and Mali Brekken, who lived their entire lives in Norway, where Ole Brekken was engaged in general farming. John Hansel and wife came to America during the month of May, in the year 1870, and settled in Tumuli township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, where he homesteaded a claim of one hundred and eighty-nine acres of land, a place which this pioneer farmer improved extensively and where he and his wife spent the remainder of their days. John and Goro Hansel were the parents of the following children: Ole, living in Canada; Anna, deceased; Christ, the subject of this sketch, and two deceased children who bore the name of Christ. The elder Hansel and his wife were devout members of the Parkdale Norwegian Lutheran church, a congregation in which they were honored and highly respected communicants.

Christ J. Hansel received his education in the local schools of Tumuli township, Otter Tail county, after which he aided his father on the home farm for some years and then went to Renville county, Minnesota, where he homesteaded a farm on which he lived for three years, then returned to Otter Tail county and bought the home farm of his father, a place where he now lives, after having added thirty-three acres of land adjoining. Christ J. Hansel has one of the best improved and most modernly equipped farms of the county, where he now engages in general agricultural pursuits.

During the year 1897, Christ J. Hansel was married to Mary Johnson.

who was born in Norway, and to this marriage five children were born, namely: Gelena, Hilmer, Alma, Roy and Clarence.

Christ J. Hansel in political circles and in public life is well known, having served the township for four years as assessor, at one time having been elected to a seat on the township school board, and he is now the occupant of the office of road overseer.

HENRY E. SIEBELS.

One of the most progressive and enterprising young farmers of Gorman township, this county, is Henry E. Siebels, who was born on the farm on which he still makes his home, on July 18, 1876, son of Edward and Angeline (Shulta) Siebels, both natives of Oldenburg, Germany, the former of whom was born on August 14, 1833, and the latter, February 2, 1848, who homesteaded a place in this county in 1874.

Edward Siebels, who was the son of Henry Siebels, a farmer in Oldenburg, first came to America in 1868, leaving his first wife, who was Margaret Sears before her marriage, and their small daughter, Rose, at home while he was making arrangements for the creation of a new home on this side of the Atlantic. For two years he worked with a railroad construction force and then returned to Germany for his wife and daughter, with the expectation of bringing them to America. Before their preparations for departure were completed, however, Mrs. Siebels, while crossing the river Alba, broke through the ice and the shock induced a fatal illness. Some time after her death, Mr. Siebels married, secondly, Angeline Shulta, and in 1872 returned to America, bringing his wife and his daughter, Rose. From New York, the Siebels came to Minnesota and for a year lived at Duluth. Mr. Siebels then resumed his former work with a railroad construction crew and helped to build the first railroad through this county.

Becoming impressed with the possibilities of the region hereabout, Edward Siebels homesteaded eighty acres of land in Gorman township, in 1874, and made his home there, the remainder of his life being spent on the homestead farm, his death occurring on March 20, 1911. To him and his second wife six children were born: Margaret, Henry E., Regina, Anna (deceased), Edward (deceased) and Edward. His widow is now making her home with her eldest son, the immediate subject of this sketch, who is managing the old home place. Edward Siebels had prospered during his life in this county and at the time of his death was the owner of three hundred and twenty acres surrounding the original homestead in section 22, of Gorman township. He had made substantial improvements to the same and was regarded as one of the leading farmers thereabout. He and his wife were devout members of the Catholic church and their children were

reared in that faith, the family being one of the leaders in the various good works of the parish.

Henry E. Siebels received his education in the excellent school of district No. 14 and was reared to the life of the farm, becoming in time one of the most progressive young farmers in that part of the county. He is now the owner of one hundred and sixty acres of well-tilled land surrounding the old home place and forty acres over the line in Becker county. Mr. Siebels takes an active interest in community affairs and gives his faithful and intelligent attention to all movements having to do with the betterment of conditions in the vicinity of his home. He long has taken a warm interest in educational matters thereabout and for thirteen years has been the treasurer of the school board. He is one of the leading stockholders in the farmers store and creamery at Perham; a shareholder in the local telephone company and is actively connected with the farmers insurance association. In his farming operations he gives much attention to stock raising and his Shorthorn cattle and Duroc-Jersey hogs are of the best.

On June 6, 1890, Henry E. Siebels was united in marriage to Christine Bahner, who was born in Stevens county, this state, and to this union eleven children have been born; Angeline, Joseph, Adaline, Frances, Henry (deceased), Rosie, Leona, Regina, Magdaline, Alord and Mary. Mr. and Mrs. Siebels are earnest members of the Catholic church and are looked upon as among the most useful and influential members of the parish to which they are attached, they and their family being held in the highest esteem throughout that entire section of the county.

WILLIAM BECK.

William Beck, a well-to-do farmer of Oak Valley township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, is a native of Bremer county, Iowa, where he was born on September 28, 1870.

Mr. Beck is the son of Peter and Emma (Runyan) Beck, the former of whom was born in Alsace-Lorraine in 1833, and the latter born in Bremer county, Iowa, in 1847. She was the daughter of John and Lavina (Thayer) Runyan, who immigrated from New York state to Michigan and later from Michigan to Bremer county, Iowa, with an ox team. John Runyan and wife died in Bremer county, Iowa. The parents of Peter Beck were natives of France, who settled in the state of Illinois as early as 1843 and both died in that state. Peter Beck was only eleven years old when he settled with his parents in the state of Illinois. He had come to America from France with his parents. He attended school at Evanston, Illinois, and, for a time, was a student at Northwestern University. Later he moved to Bremer county, Iowa, and in 1869 was married. Shortly after his marriage

he immigrated to Otter Tail county, Minnesota, purchasing one hundred and twenty acres of land, which his son, William, now owns and which is located in section 14, of Oak Valley township. Here he died in 1894, but his widow is still living and resides at Verndale, Minnesota. Peter Beck was chairman of the township board and also served on the school board and as township treasurer at one time. There were three children in the family: Harry, deceased; Grace and William, the subject of this sketch. Grace is the wife of H. J. Ormsby, of Black River Falls, Wisconsin.

William Beck was educated in Bremer county, Iowa, in the public schools, but came to Otter Tail county, Minnesota, when eleven years old. He also attended the public schools of this county, and the Wadena high school. After finishing his education, Mr. Beck taught school for twenty-five years in Otter Tail county in connection with farming. He owns one hundred and twenty acres of land in sections 14 and 23, of Oak Valley township, and is a general farmer and stockman.

On November 29, 1900, William Beck was married to Winona Rode, who was born on April 9, 1878, in the state of Illinois, and who is the daughter of Christian Rode, who is mentioned elsewhere in this volume. Mr. and Mrs. William Beck have two children, Harry Lesley, born on October 11, 1905, and Valora Eileen, born on October 27, 1909.

In political affairs, Mr. Beck is identified with the Republican party. He is now clerk of Oak Valley township and has served in other positions of trust and responsibility within the gift of his neighbors and friends, whose confidence he has enjoyed during his long residence in this locality.

JOHN E. MURRAY.

John E. Murray is one of the business men of Parkers Prairie, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, who are worthy of the respect accorded them by an admiring public. He is the son of John and Louise (Monson) Murray, natives of Scotland and Sweden, respectively. John Murray immigrated to America in 1869 and chose Elmo township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, as his residence. He secured one hundred and sixty acres of land under the homestead law and continued to live there for a period of sixteen years, removing thence to the village of Parkers Prairie, where he remained until his death. He established a general merchandise store which he operated for nearly eight years, after which he engaged in farming for many years. In 1910 he retired to the town of Parkers Prairie.

John E. Murray was born on August 7, 1879, in Elmo township, Otter Tail county Minnesota, and received his education in the schools of Parkers Prairie township and in the Park Region College at Fergus Falls, Minnesota. After completing his education he was employed as a clerk in the

mercantile business which position he held for four years. He then engaged in the lumber business in 1903, being employed by the Dower Lumber Company, of Parkers Prairie, and in 1913 he became the general manager of the Wilcox Lumber Company, also of Parkers Prairie, Minnesota. This company supplies all kinds of building material. Fraternally, John E. Murray is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, the Modern Woodmen of the World and the Ancient Order of United Workmen.

On September 2, 1907, John E. Murray was united in marriage to Millie Nelson and they are the parents of three children whose names follow: Harold, Mildred and Erenstine. Millie (Nelson) Murray is a member of the Norwegian Lutheran church.

ANDREW LEVRING.

A successful farmer and stock raiser and a man who is a good citizen, is the record of Andrew Levring, the subject of this sketch. Industrious, intelligently applying his thorough knowledge of agricultural pursuits, and one who in the conduct of life has shown himself to be tactful and resourceful, he is a man with a host of friends and one whom the township and county value as a worthy citizen.

Andrew Levring was born in Vardalen Trondhjem, Amt, Norway, September 23, 1879, being the son of Peter Melby and Karene Levring, who were also born at that place. The mother of Andrew Levring lived in her native land until about the year 1893, when she died. The father, Peter Melby Levring, came to America and settled at Glenwood, Minnesota, where he is now engaged in the carpenter's trade. Peter Melby and Karene Levring were the parents of one son, Andrew, the subject of this sketch.

Andrew Levring received his education in the public schools of his native country, after finishing which, he came, during the year 1903, to America and following his landing at New York City he went to Ashby, Minnesota, and followed the carpenter's trade at that town and at the town of Wapeton, North Dakota, for about five years. During the year 1908 he came to Nidaros township, where he invested in eighty acres of land, in section 14, a place on which a house was built, but lacking other necessary buildings. Since taking possession of his farm Mr. Levring has greatly improved his place, building a good barn and a silo set on a six-foot concrete foundation. Andrew Levring follows his vocation as a general farmer and also engages in the dairy business, he keeping on his farm ten first-class cows, together with other cattle, making a herd of seventeen head of cattle. Andrew Levring, in addition to his own holdings, rents adjoining land to the acreage of one hundred and sixty acres on which he engages extensively in the raising of corn, oats and wheat.

On December 31, 1908, Andrew Levring and Anna Stene were married, she being a native of Nidaros township, and the daughter of Ole E. and Caroline Stene. Ole E. Stene was one of the pioneer settlers of the locality, having come from Vardalen, Norway, to Nidaros township, where he bought one hundred and sixty acres of land, on which he lived until his death on October 28, 1908. Caroline, the wife of Ole Stene, survives her husband and is now a resident of the town of Vining. To the marriage of Andrew and Anna Stene were born two children, Mercedes, who was born on December 5, 1911, and Orrin, who was born on February 20, 1914.

Andrew Levring and wife are members of the Norwegian Lutheran church at Vining, where they take an active part in the work and worship of that church. In politics, Mr. Levring is an ardent Republican.

Andrew Levring has not been an occupant of the local political offices, preferring rather to serve his place well and conscientiously, in the ranks of his party and as one of the true citizens in the country of his adoption. Mr. Levring has been active in all matters for community advancement and has given liberally of his time for the advance of those things having as an object the betterment of the county and the township.

ARTHUR W. NELSON.

The subject of the following sketch was born and has spent his entire life in Parkers Prairie township, where he has become a potent factor in the business progress, handling a full line of the most approved agricultural implements, and doing a prosperous business, all of which is the result of his upright dealings and affable manner in the treatment of his many customers.

Arthur W. Nelson, implement merchant, Parkers Prairie, Otter Tail county, was born on October 16, 1876, in Parkers Prairie township, and is a son of Carl G. and Christina Nelson. He was educated at the public schools of Parkers Prairie, and as a young man followed farming on the old homestead in partnership with his brother, Alec, for about ten years. In 1908, he went into the general farm implement business for himself, which he still follows, doing a remunerative business, in addition to which he owns a forty-acre farm on the outskirts of the village, where he now resides. Politically, Mr. Nelson is an independent voter, and in religion he is a member of the Swedish Lutheran church.

Carl G. and Christina Nelson were both born in Sweden, where they followed farming, coming to America about 1861, making their first residence in Washington county, Minnesota, and locating later at Parker's Prairie, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, in 1870. Here they took up a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres, where Mr. Nelson followed agriculture

for the remainder of his active life. During the latter part of his life he spent three years in Florida and Kansas. He was one of the hard-struggling pioneers, and was always a public-spirited man. Carl G. and Christina Nelson were the parents of seven children: Peter, John, Ida and Cronnett, all deceased; and Alexander, Edward and Arthur W. Mr. Nelson was a member of the Swedish Lutheran church at Parkers Prairie, of which he was one of the builders.

Arthur W. Nelson was united in marriage on December 22, 1903, with Mabel Hawkinson, daughter of John Hawkinson, whose life history is presented elsewhere in this volume. One child has been born to this marriage, Everett Nelson.

Mr. Nelson is one of the public-spirited young men of the community, and has earned the high regard in which he is held by all who know him.

CHARLES MANSKE.

The biography of almost every person is interesting and instructive, but particularly interesting is that narration of a life which reveals a struggle for existence, the overcoming of the hardships incident to a pioneer home, the struggle from a mediocre position to one of prominence, or the adapting of one's self to conditions in a new country, where faces are strange, where customs are different and where language is unintelligible. The story of the life of Charles Manske, a farmer of Fergus Falls township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, falls in that class of biography which entertains as well as instructs, for its subject braved, with his parents, the long voyage across the Atlantic and adapted himself to the new conditions in a new land. Especially is the story of Charles Manske interesting, because, in spite of the hindrances and trials, he has commanded success and at the same time holds the respect and admiration of his many friends.

Charles Manske was born on April 20, 1869, in Germany, the son of Ludwig and Minnie (Ladwig) Manske, both natives of Germany, the former born on November 4, 1838, and the latter on January 1, 1835. Ludwig Manske was educated in the common schools of his native land, and later learned the distiller's trade, at which trade he worked until he came to America, in the spring of 1882. Upon his arrival in America, he emigrated to Minnesota and located on the border line between Otter Tail and Wilkin counties, in the township of Andrea. He homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres in that township and lived upon his possessions until 1897, when he sold his farm to his son, Charles. After selling the land, he moved to Fergus Falls.

Ludwig Manske had about one thousand dollars when he landed in



MR. AND MRS. CHARLES MANSKE.

America, but business conditions being in a depressed state and reacting unfavorably on the farmer, the one thousand dollars quickly was gone and the family found themselves in critical circumstances. Conditions became more and more depressed and, finally, Mr. Manske was forced to leave his wife and children and to seek employment wherever it could be found. He contracted as a teamster, but the contract was broken and Mr. Manske was unremunerated for his services. In the meantime his wife and children, whom he had been forced to leave in the wilderness, were penniless and struggling bravely and hard to get enough to eat. At last, however, brighter times came and the silver lining of the darkened cloud displayed itself. Mr. and Mrs. Ludwig Manske lived to attain ripe old ages, the former passing away on August 12, 1912, and the latter still living at an advanced age.

To Ludwig and Minnie (Ludwig) Manske were born three children, Paul H., Anna M. and Charles, the subject of this sketch. Paul H. was educated in Germany. Accompanying his parents to America, he learned several languages until he was able to speak seven different tongues. He was possessed of keen business ability and, pursuing his natural bent, emigrated to Oregon and engaged in business with his father. He went to Oregon in March, 1888, but was taken sick with typhoid fever and succumbed to the dreaded disease on August 3, 1888. His remains were buried at Portland, Oregon. Anna M. married G. F. Bureau, and lives at Underwood, and for a time, when a girl, she was employed in the home of Mr. Mason, the editor of this history.

Charles Manske was educated in the common schools of Germany and, upon arriving in America, pursued his schooling for six months longer in Wilkin county, Minnesota. He early assisted his father on the farm of one hundred and sixty acres, which had been homesteaded, and in 1897 bought the holding from his father. He farmed in Wilkin county until 1904, at which time he sold the land. He then bought a farm in Fergus Falls township, Otter Tail county, comprising one hundred and sixty acres. After purchasing the farm in Fergus Falls township, he began to improve it and has continued the process of improvement until he now has a highly-improved farm. He has a substantial home, which he built in 1905, besides a commodious barn and silo, which he later erected. Mr. Manske engages in general farming and stock raising, keeping a high grade of stock. He specializes in Shorthorn cattle and maintains a dairy.

On June 20, 1895, Charles Manske was married to Lena Trenne, a daughter of Fritz and Charlotte (Graeschke) Trenne, both of whom are natives of Germany, the former born on June 27, 1841, and the latter on November 6, 1850. Mr. and Mrs. Trenne were married in Germany on April 11, 1872, and, immediately after their marriage, emigrated to America,

locating in Oscar township, Otter Tail county. Fritz Trenne bought a farm of one hundred and sixty acres, and added to this one hundred and sixty acres, until he owned an entire section. Like other emigrants to a new country, Mr. and Mrs. Trenne endured many hardships, but were liberally repaid by their subsequent success. In 1908 Mr. and Mrs. Fritz Trenne retired from active farming and moved to Fergus Falls. Mrs. Manske's father spent the last few years of his life as an invalid, having been afflicted with rheumatism. He passed away on October 22, 1913. Mrs. Fritz Trenne survives her husband, and at the present time is living with her two daughters in a pleasant little home in Fergus Falls. She bore her husband the following children: Paul, Lena, William, Eliza, August, Otelia, who died at the age of twenty-six, leaving two children; Emily, Martin, who died at the age of nineteen; Frances, Minnie, and Malvina.

To Mr. and Mrs. Charles Manske have been born four children: Paul H., born on April 30, 1896; Frederick William, who died in infancy; Elsie E., born on December 15, 1899, and Wilma R., born on August 12, 1911.

Mr. and Mrs. Manske are members of the German Lutheran church and take a lively interest in the affairs of the church. Mr. Manske is a Democrat. Those who come into contact with Mr. Manske know him as an honorable, progressive and intelligent farmer, a man interested in the affairs of his community and a man who commands the confidence and respect of his fellow citizens.

HERMAN A. PROEHL, D. D. S.

Dr. Herman A. Proehl is one of the enterprising young professional men of Parkers Prairie, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, who have been interested in the progress of their community. He was born in Effington township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, on August 29, 1884. He is one of ten children born to Caston and Wilhelmina (Grosnick) Proehl, natives of Hanover, Germany, and Pommern, Germany, respectively. Caston Proehl was born on December 3, 1840, and is the son of Johan Henry and Elizabeth (Kosten) Proehl, both natives of Hanover. Elizabeth (Kosten) Proehl died in her native land, and soon afterward her husband immigrated to America and joined his only surviving child, Caston, who had preceded him. He arrived in this country in 1868 and immediately settled on one hundred and sixty acres of government land that had not yet been surveyed, and both son and father were residents of their land for three years before they received a clear title to the same. Their farms adjoined on the south and the father died before his deed to the property was received and Caston Henry Proehl had to prove up "as heir."

Caston Henry Proehl immigrated to America in 1867, locating in St.

Paul for two years and then removing to Otter Tail county, Minnesota, where his land was purchased and where he has since remained. He owns two hundred acres of land, but has been retired from active operations for some years. He was married to Wilhelmina Grosnick in 1869. She is the daughter of Johan Grosnick, who immigrated to America in 1864, and is one of six children born to his union: Mary, Fritz, Carl, Augusta, Wilhelmina and Hannah. To the union of Caston Henry Proehl and his wife were born these children: Carl, Ida, Henry, Bertha, Frederick, Mary, Minnie, William, Ella and Herman A. Caston Henry Proehl has served in the capacity of township supervisor for fifteen years, having been appointed to that office during the first year of the organization of Effington township.

Herman A. Proehl received his preliminary education in the common schools of Effington township and later became a student in the Southern Minnesota Normal School, located at Austin, Minnesota. He also attended St. Paul's College, in St. Paul, Minnesota, and in 1907 entered the Chicago College of Dental Surgery, from which he was graduated in 1910. The first year of his practice was spent in Bucharest, Roumania, but he returned to Minneapolis, Minnesota, in 1912, and remained there for one year. In 1913 he removed to Parkers Prairie, where he has established a permanent business.

On April 20, 1913, Dr. Herman A. Proehl was united in marriage to Catherine Hazen and they are the parents of one child, Carman S. Fraternally, Herman A. Proehl is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and is also a member of the Minnesota State Dental Society and of the National Dental Society.

JOHN A. HAWKINSON.

John A. Hawkinson was born on May 11, 1853, in Sweden, the son of Gustav and Johanna (Jonason) Hawkinson, both natives of Sweden. The paternal grandfather of John A. Hawkinson, was Hakan Larson, who lived all his life in Sweden and died in that country. He engaged in tailoring during the early part of his life, but in the later part followed farming. The maternal grandfather of John A. Hawkinson was also a native of Sweden and remained in that country all his life. He was engaged in farming until his death.

Gustav Hawkinson, father of John A. Hawkinson, was married twice and his first wife, mother of John A., lived and died in her native land. Following her death, Gustav Hawkinson married Carolina Jonason, her sister, and immigrated to America in 1869. To his first union were born three sons and to his second union seven sons, there being no daughters born

of either marriage. His first wife died in April, 1864. After his arrival in America he located in Franconia township, Chisago county, Minnesota, where he purchased one hundred and ten acres of land, later increasing his holdings to two hundred and thirty acres. He was born in September, 1826, and his death occurred in February, 1902. The names of his children follow: John A., Charles, Alfred, David, Frank, Joseph, Samuel, Israel, Jacob and Theodore. Both Gustav and Johanna Hawkinson were members of the Swedish Lutheran church.

John A. Hawkinson was educated in the common schools of his native land and he attended, for a short time, the district schools of Franconia township, Chisago county, Minnesota, where his father had made a permanent home. In 1874, at the age of twenty-one years, he began independent operations in the agricultural line by investing in a homestead located in section 8, just two and one-half miles northwest of the village of Parkers Prairie, and this land was cultivated until 1913. The homestead was purchased of Jason Newel. As soon as he was established in Minnesota he became a dominant factor in the affairs of the township in which he resided and the first office bestowed upon him was so efficiently filled that he was elected to other offices of trust and he has held every office in the township. Besides his other duties, he was appointed postmaster and served in this capacity until 1895, having been appointed to the office in December, 1889. He continued to reside on the farm until 1896 but finding that he could render better service to his fellow citizens by a residence in town, he removed to Parkers Prairie, where he was again appointed to serve as postmaster, in 1903.

In 1876 John A. Hawkinson was united in marriage to Judith Nelson, daughter of Andrew P. Nelson, a native of Sweden, whose wife, Johannah C. Nelson, was also a native of Sweden. Judith Nelson was born in 1860, in Chisago county, Minnesota. To the union of John A. and Judith Hawkinson have been born nine children: Mabel, Mary, Winfred, Adela, Alvina, Elred, Constance, Ruth and Rudolph. While engaged in agricultural pursuits John A. Hawkinson was the owner of two hundred and forty acres of land, two hundred acres of this being under cultivation. The products of the farm consisted in grain and the raising and breeding of purebred Short-horn cattle, Poland China hogs and Norman horses. The building which was used for the former store was razed after his business increased beyond the capacity of the structure, and in 1904 the present store of brick was erected. John A. Hawkinson occupies a place of high regard in the hearts of his many friends and acquaintances, and that he is worthy of this respect is evidenced by the many positions of confidence, which have been tokens of honor and love.

STEVE L. PERKINS.

The name of Steve L. Perkins is mentioned with respect and admiration as one who has worked for the furtherance of all matters pertaining to the betterment of community life, and his active service in this respect has been of great benefit to his fellow citizens. He was born on February 25, 1875, in Parkers Prairie, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, and is the son of George W. and Mary E. (Hower) Perkins. George W. Perkins was the son of Christopher Perkins, both natives of Maine.

The maternal grandparents of Steve L. Perkins were Levi and Margaret (Wool) Hower, both natives of Indiana, from which state they removed in 1871 and located in St. Cloud, Minnesota, removing thence to Parkers Prairie, where his death occurred. Margaret (Wool) Hower, widow of Levi Hower, is still living and resides with her daughter, Mary E. (Hower) Perkins, in Alexandria, Minnesota. Her husband was a veteran of the Civil War, as was also George W. Perkins, who enlisted in the Fifteenth Regiment, Illinois Volunteer Infantry. George W. Perkins was promoted from private to corporal and was with Sherman on his march to the sea. Seeking broader fields for his energy and ambition, he became the arbiter of his destiny at the age of fifteen years, removing to St. Cloud, Minnesota, where he worked and attended school for some time. He resided with an aunt at Kimball Prairie until coming to Otter Tail county, Minnesota. They had no conveyance and he was compelled to transport their provisions of flour, etc., upon his back, from Melrose. In 1871 he purchased a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres, in Parkers Prairie township, which he cultivated until three years before his death. He removed to the town of Parkers Prairie where he retired and where his death occurred. He served as county supervisor and school clerk for a number of years. His religious affiliations were with the Baptist church, which denomination received his earnest and active support. He was also a member of the Grand Army of the Republic. He was the father of two children, namely, William R. and Steve L.

Steve L. Perkins received his education in the public schools of Parkers Prairie, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, and also attended Sauk Center business college, where he graduated from the bookkeeping department, immediately entering the general mercantile business with his brother-in-law, M. W. A. Murray, in Parkers Prairie. He was later engaged with the Plano Harvester Company as salesman and collector for a period of three years, later engaging with the Hennepin Lumber Company, in Clarissa, Minnesota. In 1902 he connected with the Dower Lumber Company, of Parkers Prairie, Minnesota, as manager of the business.

On January 5, 1900, Steve L. Perkins was united in marriage to Jennie

Murray and to this union have been born three children: Clarence, Louise and Russell.

In connection with his other interests, Steve L. Perkins is the owner of a two-hundred-acre farm adjoining Parkers Prairie, on which he specializes in the breeding of Holstein cattle and Poland China hogs. He has served, at various times, as a member of the village council and holds fraternal affiliations with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, Modern Woodmen of America, and Ancient Order of United Workmen. His religious affiliations are with the Baptist church, of which denomination he is a supporter. That he is progressive along business and civil lines, is plainly to be seen and the sincere regard in which he is held by his fellow citizens is but a fitting tribute to his unselfish interests in their behalf.

LEEMAN LOOP.

Leeman Loop, retired farmer and well-known man of Dent, Edna township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, was born in St. Lawrence county, New York, September 22, 1840, the son of Van Rensler and Clarissa (Callester) Loop, both of whom were natives of St. Lawrence county. Van Rensler Loop, who was the son of David Loop and wife, natives of Germany, who came to America and settled in St. Lawrence county, received his education in the schools of his native county, after which he learned the blacksmith's trade, following this work, together with that of a locksmith, for some years and then he became a farmer on three hundred acres of land in St. Lawrence county, where he and his wife spent the remainder of their days. Van Rensler and Clarissa Loop were the parents of nine children: Spellman, Leeman, Stillman, Delilah, Sarah, Almond, Henry, Leighman and Isabel. Van Rensler Loop was a prominent man of his community, serving in various school offices and as justice of the peace.

Leeman Loop was educated in the schools of St. Lawrence county, after which he enlisted on August 11, 1862, for service in the Civil War with Company K, One Hundred and Sixth Regiment, New York Volunteer Infantry, a command with which he served until the end of the war, during that time having many narrow escapes from death. Mr. Loop was twice wounded while engaged in battle. He had a part in the siege of Petersburg and was present at the surrender of General Lee. Following his discharge from military service, on July 14, 1865, at Ogdensburg, New York, Leeman Loop moved to the town of Le Roy, Mower county, Minnesota, near where he was employed as a farm helper for some years and then he learned the stone-mason's trade which he followed for a number of years.

On October 8, 1878, Leeman Loop went to Star Lake and homesteaded eighty acres of land, which he cleared and improved with a good house and

where he lived until 1913, when he sold his place to his son, Lucian Loop. Since taking possession of his original land, he added seventy-seven acres. Mr. Loop now lives a retired life at Dent, Minnesota.

In the month of January, 1867, Leeman Loop was married to Lucinda S. Monson, a native of the state of Wisconsin, and to this marriage were born the following children: Miles A., who lives near Campbell, Minnesota; Clara, who is now Mrs. Pehl, of near Campbell; William, who met a tragic death in a railway accident; Duard, who was drowned in Dead Lake, and Lucian, who now cultivates the home farm.

Leeman Loop has filled an important place in the public and official life of Star Lake township, having served as a supervisor, as a member of the school board and as a constable. In politics, Mr. Loop is a Republican.

THORBJORN H. KVILEKVAL.

The late Thorbjorn H. Kvilekval, who was a prosperous farmer of Otter Tail county, Minnesota, was connected with a distinguished Norwegian family. His sister was the mother of the Hon. Knut Nelson, United States senator from Minnesota. The late Thorbjorn H. Kvilekval died on April 26, 1900, after having lived a most active and interesting life in the country of his adoption.

Thorbjorn H. Kvilekval was born in Voss, Norway, December 6, 1825, and was the son of Haldor and Brita Kvilekval. The parents never came to America. Mr. Kvilekval's father was a farmer and, by his marriage to Brita Kvilekval, had two sons and three daughters.

Thorbjorn H. Kvilekval was educated in the public schools of Norway and reared on a farm. In 1870 he was married and, two years later, came to America by steamship. He first settled in Chicago, where he lived for two years, until 1874, when he came to Otter Tail county, purchasing a farm of one hundred and sixty acres in Clitherall township. Although there was a log house standing on the farm and in use at the time, the soil had never been cultivated and was principally made up of wild land. About twenty acres of the land, however, had been cleared. Mr. Kvilekval began immediately to clear the land and to this end used a yoke of oxen. About 1900 he built his present home, which is a commodious and comfortable farm residence.

On June 26, 1870, two years before coming to America, the late Thorbjorn H. Kvilekval was married to Brita Nilson Stene, a native of Norway and the daughter of Nils Herlangson. Mrs. Kvilekval's parents spent their entire lives in Norway. Mr. and Mrs. Kvilekval had no children. She is still living on the old home farm and is a most interesting, cultured and refined lady. She is a member of the Clitherall village Luth-

eran church, as was also her husband. Mr. Kvilekval was an ardent Republican, but was never an aspirant for office and was never particularly active in political affairs.

WILLIAM A. WOODHALL.

William A. Woodhall, farmer and horseman, of Buse township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, is a native of Canada, born at Ailsa Craig, province of Ontario, on December 14, 1864, eldest son of John and Jane (Johnson) Woodhall, the former born in England and the latter in Canada.

John Woodhall was born on March 4, 1838, son of Ambrose and Elizabeth (Sewell) Woodhall, natives of Cornwall, England, and as a boy was brought to Canada by his parents some time early in the forties. They lived for a time near Ottawa and later moved to Ailsa Craig, in Middlesex county. Ambrose Woodhall was a stone and brick mason by trade and so thorough and painstaking was his work that there are still standing in that part of Ontario in which he lived many houses erected by his hand. He turned to farming in later life, but continued to work more or less at his trade. Both he and his wife died and are buried at Ailsa Craig. They were the parents of ten children, of whom the first five or six were born in England and the others in America, but most of the members of that family are now dead. Both Ambrose Woodhall and his wife were devout members of the Church of England.

Jane (Johnson) Woodhall, mother of the subject of this sketch, was a daughter of John D. and Jane (Dunn) Johnson and was born at Ailsa Craig, province of Ontario, Canada, on April 1, 1843. Her parents were born in Glasgow, Scotland, and upon coming to America, settled in Canada at the point above mentioned. Her parents were strict Scotch Presbyterians and the father was a weaver by trade, although after locating in Canada he gave his entire time to farming. Both passed their closing days at Ailsa Craig, and lie buried there. There were eight children in their family, six of whom are still living.

Mr. Woodhall's parents grew up at Ailsa Craig and were married, living there for one year thereafter, engaged in farming. In 1805 they came to the states and located in Wisconsin, where they remained but a year, and in 1866 homesteaded a claim of one hundred and sixty acres in Watonwan county, Minnesota. They returned to friends in Wisconsin for the winter, and in the spring of 1867 came and took possession of their land. This was mostly prairie land, and John Woodhall set about breaking it for cultivation and making other improvements. He was progressing nicely with his undertaking when the pest of grasshoppers of 1872 arrived and completely destroyed every growing thing on his farm. Disheartened, he returned to



WILLIAM A. WOODHALL.

Canada, where he remained for a year and a half, having disposed of his land. However, he returned to Watonwan county and purchased another farm, where he lived for three or four years. That farm he also sold and bought a place in Blue Earth county, this state, where he lived from 1881 to 1910, when he sold his farm interests and took up his residence in Madelia, this state, where he and his wife are still living in quiet retirement after the strenuous years spent in acquiring a competency. John Woodhall, for many years, took an active interest in local politics. His sympathies were with the Democratic party and at his home in Blue Earth county he at different times filled the various township offices and was also county commissioner. Mrs. Woodhall has for many years been a devout member of the Presbyterian church and a most exemplary woman in every respect.

William A. Woodhall is one of a family of eight children, the others being John, a stationary engineer for a mining company in California; Isabelle, single and with the parents; Mary, wife of Thomas Thompson, of Mankato, this state; Elizabeth, wife of Oliver Ashley, and residing at Madelia, this state; Ambrose, a carpenter, living at Grand Forks, this state, whose wife was Clara Nobles; Charles, dealer in hardware and automobiles at Waldorf, this state, and Myron E., a graduate of Valparaiso law school, and residing on a farm near Mankato.

William A. Woodhall received his education in the common schools near his home, later attending the Mapleton high school and early in life chose farming as his vocation. For ten years he operated his father-in-law's farm in Blue Earth county, this farm containing six hundred and forty acres of excellent land. Then for a time he lived near Madelia, this state, where he engaged in farming and stock feeding. On April 16, 1913, Mr. Woodhall came to Otter Tail county and purchased two hundred and eighty acres in Fergus Falls township, adjoining the grounds of the state insane hospital. On that farm Mr. Woodhall lived until December, 1913, when he came to Buse township and purchased his present farm of three hundred and twenty acres.

Mr. Woodhall has for many years been interested in fine horses and for several years has been breeding standard-bred American trotting horses. He has nine head in his stables, of which eight are mares. In 1912 Mr. Woodhall made a circuit of the state fairs of Wisconsin, Minnesota and Illinois, as well as at Milwaukee and at the latter point he made a record with "Zantee McGregor" of 2:12¼, winning first money. That year he won six races, losing only one heat. In early life Mr. Woodhall endorsed the principles of the Democratic party and took an active part in various debating societies. He finally became a Populist and is today an independent voter. While

always interested in political matters, Mr. Woodhall has never aspired to public office. His fraternal affiliation is with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Knights of Pythias, being one of the prominent members of both orders.

William A. Woodhall was married on November 14, 1892, to Hettie Ashley, born in Beaver Dam county, Wisconsin, and a daughter of Oliver and Mary (Harris) Ashley. Oliver Ashley was a prominent politician and for several terms was a member of the Wisconsin state Legislature. He also conducted extensive nurseries and at one time was prominently engaged in the mercantile business at Beaver Dam. His beautiful country home was located just on the edge of Beaver Dam and there the family lived for many years. Mr. Ashley was a native of the state of New York, born of English parentage and came from old fighting stock. His ancestors in this country were veterans of the Revolutionary war and at the original home in England, various forbears had won renown on the battlefield. Mr. Ashley was in his day prominent in military circles and was an enrolling officer in Wisconsin during the Civil War. He was held in high esteem by both constituents and personal friends and was eminently worthy of such regard. His death occurred at Madelia, this state, where his widow still resides.

Mr. and Mrs. Woodhall have a family of four children, as follows: Kenneth, James and Katherine Isabelle, all at home, while Fordyce, the youngest of the family, died at the age of two and one-half years. As one of the leading citizens of Otter Tail county, Mr. Woodhall is eminently entitled to special mention in a volume of the character of the one in hand. Mrs. Woodhall is eligible to membership in the Daughters of the American Revolution from both sides.

BERNHARD STANGENES.

Bernhard Stangenes has been a dominant factor in the progress of Candor township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, and has earnestly worked for the advancement of his community. He is the son of Peter and Caroline (Korsand) Stangenes and his birth occurred on February 17, 1874, in Minneapolis, Minnesota. His paternal grandfather was Botolf Stangenes, who lived near Molda, Norway, and died in that place.

Peter Stangenes was a native of Norway and his birth occurred on January 1, 1847. He grew to maturity and was married in that country. His wife, Caroline (Korsand) Stangenes, was a native of Norway and was born in 1848. After their marriage they immigrated to America, arriving in 1871, and they almost immediately located in Minneapolis, Minnesota, where Mr. Stangenes worked in the pine woods of that section. For two years he was a member of the North Star Cooperage Company, of Minne-

apolis, but in 1878 he removed to Lac qui Parle county, Minnesota, and purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land, in Arena township, on which he remained until 1903. He and his wife were members of the Norwegian Lutheran church and were the parents of three children: Bernhard, Elise, who is the wife of S. A. Stromme, of Lanesboro, Minnesota, and Alfred, who is engaged in the grocery business in Minneapolis, Minnesota. Caroline (Korsand) Stangenes died in 1882, and her husband then married Anna Buck, and to this union two children were born: Beate, who married Henry Skalrud and is living at Minneapolis, and Paul, who is engaged in the grocery business in Minneapolis. The father of these children is a Republican in politics.

Bernhard Stangenes was reared on his father's farm and received his education in the public schools of Lac qui Parle county, Minnesota. He remained at home until nearly thirty years of age, assisting with the work on the farm. In 1901 he removed to Vergas, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, and opened the first hardware store in the town. The original building was very small, but the present store is twenty-four by eighty feet in dimensions. In 1911 a partnership was formed with Peter Meyer and the firm is known as Stangenes & Meyer. In 1904 Bernhard Stangenes was appointed as postmaster of Vergas and has continued in that capacity until the present time. For eight years he represented the Wilcox Lumber Company, of Vergas, and has served as a member of the school board, for the last eight years. He acted as village treasurer for several years.

On April 16, 1904, Bernhard Stangenes was united in marriage to Ida Herting and they are the parents of six children, whose names follow: Alfred, Wilhelmina, Edna, Dorothy, Eleanor and Harold. Both husband and wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal church. Ida (Herting) Stangenes is a native of Carver county and a daughter of Henry Herting, an old settler of Dunn township.

LOUIS DEPOCHEE.

A farmer who has made a thorough success of his agricultural life, one who not only has had an important part in the development of the resources of Otter Tail county, Minnesota, but a citizen who in the public life of the community has taken a conspicuous part as an office holder and director of public movement, as well as being a man who because of the nature of his life has won a host of friends, Louis DePochee, the subject of this sketch, is a man a review of whose life is worthy of record in this volume.

Louis DePochee was born near Montreal, Canada, on October 12, 1841, the son of Louis DePochee and wife, both of whom were born in Canada,

where they spent their entire lives, Louis DePochee, Sr., being a farmer in his native country.

Louis DePochee, who was one of five children, received his education in the common schools of Canada, after which he went, in the year 1861, to the state of Ohio, where about one year later he enlisted for service in the Federal army, with the One Hundred and Twenty-eighth Regiment, Ohio Volunteer Infantry, serving in Company C of this regiment for two years, his duty during this time being as a member of the guard force used at the army prison on Johnson's Island, across the bay from Sandusky, Ohio. During the year 1865, following the Civil War, he went to the state of Wisconsin, there being employed as a lumberman for about five years, after which he came to Otter Tail county, Minnesota, where he homesteaded one hundred and thirty-six acres of land located in Lida township, a farm which he improved with the first house built in Lida township, one made of sod and logs, this primitive house serving as a home for this pioneer farmer until, at a later time, he erected a modern home, in which he now lives, as a general farmer and stock raiser.

During the year 1877, Louis DePochee was married to Mary Cole, who was born at Troy, New York, the daughter of Levi Cole and wife, people who moved from their New York state home and settled in Pelican township, of Otter Tail county, Minnesota, in the year 1871. To the marriage of Louis and Mary DePochee was born one son, Ross, who lives on the home place with his father, this son having been born on August 2, 1878, and following his education in the country schools of Lida township, Otter Tail county, he became a farmer working in connection with his father. In the year 1908 Ross DePochee was married to Fern Browning, who was born at Union City, Pennsylvania, and to this marriage have been born three daughters, Blanche, Mary Lois and Donecta. During the year 1906 he homesteaded eighty acres of land near Roosevelt, Minnesota, being the first man to locate across the divide in that region. This enterprising farmer has now "proved" on this claim, which he cares for in addition to the farm on which he makes his home in Lida township, of Otter Tail county.

In fraternal circles Louis DePochee is well known, being a member of the Modern Woodmen of America lodge at Pelican Rapids, as well as being a man who is interested and willing to aid in the work of all organizations where he can serve to the advantage of the community. Louis DePochee, his son, Ross, and the families of these men are among the most highly respected and esteemed people of the neighborhood and community, they being known as people whose part in the development of the activities and life of the township has been notable and of great good in the efforts for the advancement of Lida township among the other townships of the county.

ISAAC K. MAKI.

Isaac K. Maki was born in Finland, May 26, 1876, the son of John and Lydia (Ruhomaki) Maki, who were also born in Finland, both in the year 1846. John Maki was a farmer and landowner in his native land, where he grew to maturity and was married. In the year 1882, with his family provided for, he came to America alone, where he lived for five years and then sent for his family, who joined him in Otter Tail county. On reaching America John Maki went to the state of Wyoming where he worked for some years as a coal miner and then, in the year 1887, he came to Otter Tail county, where he homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of land, and where he bought forty acres of land in Newton township, a place where he has since lived, he now being sixty-nine years of age. Lydia Maki died about the year 1910. John Maki has taken a prominent place in the life of Newton township, serving as supervisor for about nine years. John Maki was married, secondly, to Mrs. Susie Hemminki, who is now living. To the marriage of John and Lydia Maki were born the following children: Mary, who died in Finland at the age of fourteen years; John, who conducts a merchant's warehouse at Hibbing, Minnesota; Sophia, who married Oscar Bay, a groceryman of Hibbing, Minnesota; Isaac, the subject of this sketch; Susie, who married Mike Salmien, a partner in business with John Maki, Jr., of Hibbing, Minnesota; Lizzie, who married Ole Norman and lives at Superior, Wisconsin; Nicolai and Gustav, twins, who died in infancy; Gustav, a groceryman of Hill City, Minnesota; Matthew, who lives on the home farm, and Mary, who lives at Hibbing, Minnesota.

Isaac Maki was denied the privilege of attending school except for a short time in the schools of Finland, and for three weeks study in the schools of Otter Tail county. When about nineteen years of age, having helped his father on the farm, Isaac Maki worked in Wisconsin on a railroad. He worked at odd jobs for some time. After his marriage he followed the carpenter's trade for about five years and then took up a position in the Bay & Maki store, a firm of which he was a partner, portion of the time serving as manager. During his business days Mr. Maki lived on a farm of one hundred and twenty acres which he owned near the town of New York Mills, a place where he now lives and a place where, in connection with his mercantile business, he pursues general farming. In addition to his regular business Isaac Maki has for the past several months served in his usual, efficient manner, as manager of the New York Mills Co-operative Company, a concern dealing in general merchandise and employing about five people.

Following nine months service with the Fifteenth Regiment, Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, in the Spanish-American War, Isaac Maki was married, during the year 1899, to Mary Sophia Maki, who was born in Finland, the

daughter of Matthew Maki and wife, who were born in Finland and at an early date came to America and settled in Newton township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota. To the marriage of Isaac and Mary Maki were born seven children, Ida, Wilfred, Sylvia, Lily, Aili, and Viola and Linda, who died in infancy.

Isaac K. Maki has served the public of Newton township as treasurer of the school board for three years, and in the Finnish Lutheran church, of which he is a member, he has been secretary and treasurer for some years. In politics Isaac Maki is of the Prohibition party.

Isaac K. Maki is well known in Newton township and in Otter Tail county for his public-spirited nature and for his willingness to give of his time and efforts for the good of the community. He and his wife are among those people who are highly respected and who have a host of friends in the locality.

JOHN H. KREKELBERG

John H. Krekelberg, postmaster of Dent, is among the prominent citizens of Otter Tail county, Minnesota, and is of German parentage, his parents having lived and died in that country. He was born on August 21, 1854, in Germany, and is the son of Jacob Krekelberg. Upon the completion of his education, which was received in the schools of his native land, he served in the German army for six months and also learned the trade of beer-brewing. He immigrated to America in 1874, arrived in New York on December 6, and immediately removed to Carver county, Minnesota, where he rented a farm of his uncle and began to cultivate the soil.

In 1875 John H. Krekelberg was united in marriage to Anna Wellens, a native of Germany, and to them were born these children: Lissie, who is the wife of George Alstadt, of Perham township; Henry, a farmer, who manages his father's farm in Eden township; Mary, the wife of Charles Lovedahl, lives near the town of Dent; Frank lives in Dent and operates the Park hotel, which is owned by his father; Balz died when a child of seven years, in 1897; Anna died in 1909; Katherine is the wife of Fred Robinson and their home is in Bojou, Minnesota; John is located in Brainerd where he has a realty business; Othel, who is a graduate nurse and follows her profession in Brainerd, was graduated from a hospital in St. Paul, Minnesota, in the spring of 1915; Joseph is a telegraph operator in Bobelles, North Dakota.

In 1880 John H. Krekelberg removed to Dora township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, and secured one hundred and sixty acres of unimproved land under the homestead law, and soon erected a house and barn and made other necessary improvements. The following year, he purchased some land

in Edna township where the town of Dent now stands. He added to the original property until he had two hundred and sixty-eight acres and this was cultivated under his direct management until the Soo Line railroad was built, in 1903. He then erected the Park hotel at Dent, and operated same until 1910, at which time he built his present home and retired. His first wife died in 1910 and on March 7, 1911, he married Anna Schwaebe who is a member of the Catholic church. For eleven years John H. Kregelberg served as township clerk of Edna. He is now serving his third year as mayor of Dent. From 1897 until 1903 he occupied the position of post-master of Dent, and is filling that position at this time.

CARL A. BERGQUIST.

Carl A. Bergquist is one of those who have aimed at perfection in their chosen line of endeavor and have fallen not far short of their standard of efficiency. He is one of eleven children born to the union of J. P. Bergquist and Carlina C. (Johnson) Bergquist, both natives of Sweden. J. P. Bergquist was a blacksmith and his birth occurred in 1829 and his death in August, 1910. His wife died in her fifty-eighth year. Seven of their children grew to maturity, three of whom immigrated to America. The names of the seven children follow: Charlotta, Carl A., Emma C., Victor, Hugo, Siegerd and John. Carl A., Emma C. and John came to the United States.

Carl A. Bergquist was born on October 6, 1860, in Sweden, and completed his education in that country, following which he assisted his father with the work in his blacksmith shop until he reached the age of twenty-one years. He then opened a shop, which he operated independently, in Sea Harbor, Beig Gvera, Sweden. This shop was operated for three years and made a specialty of repairing vessels. The shop was sold and he immigrated to America in 1884, locating in Alexandria, where he labored in the shops for three months. He then removed to the old village of Parkers Prairie, where he operated a blacksmith shop on an independent basis until 1892, at which time a partnership with his brother was formed and has continued to the present time. They were without funds and were poorly equipped with tools, at the beginning of their business venture, and the farmers paid their bills but once a year, making many difficulties to be overcome. In 1903 the old village was moved to its present site and the blacksmith shop was also moved.

On December 12, 1886, Carl A. Bergquist was married to Wilhelmina C. Nelson, daughter of A. P. Nelson, and they are the parents of these children: Elmer, Amba, Reno, Gertrude, Chester, Eba and Harlow. Carl A. Bergquist and his wife are members of the Swedish Lutheran church.

In his political affiliations he is allied with the Republican party. He owns forty acres of land in Parkers Prairie township, which he rents.

John Bergquist was born on October 21, 1870, in Sweden, the son of J. P. and Carlina C. (Johnson) Bergquist. He is a brother of Carl A. Bergquist. He was educated in the schools of his native land and learned the trade of blacksmith, under the tutelage of his father, which trade he followed until his emigration to America, in 1890. During the first two years of his residence in the United States he was employed by his brother, Carl A., in the summers and attended school in the winter months. In 1892 a partnership was formed between the two, which has continued until the present time. He has worked hard and owns sixty acres of land in Douglas county, Minnesota, which he rents.

On November 24, 1895 John Bergquist was married to Sara Peterson, daughter of Andrew Peterson, and they are the parents of these children: Phoebe, Ermagaurd, Ralph, Clef and Clair. The last named are twins. John Bergquist and his wife are active members of the Swedish Lutheran church.

WILLIAM WRIGHT.

William Wright, of Buse township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, known as one of the most progressive farmers of that section and having more than a local reputation as a breeder of fine Holstein cattle, is a native of England and comes from a long line of sires of the same name, each one of whom in his day and for many generations back, was known as a maker of scythes, sickles, etc., of most excellent quality. William Wright was born at Ipswich, county of Suffolk, on March 4, 1850, a son of William and Harriet (Pendell) Wright, being the eldest of their family. Subject's father was the eldest son of William and Hannah (Taylor) Wright, of the same county, their entire lives being passed in the place of their births. The family had for generations lived in the same place, the original home of the William Wrights being Tudnim, in Suffolk. Subject's father was the youngest of a family of three children, the two elder being daughters. Of these, Rachel married William Wilding and emigrated to America, settling first in Canada and at a later date coming to Illinois, where both died. Hannah, the other sister, married Theodore Headcraft, and they too came to America, locating permanently at Dulusa, Canada. Mr. Wright's father, when a youth, followed the family line and turned to blacksmithing and kindred arts as his life work, to which he confined his efforts until about sixty years of age. His wife having died some years previous and various members of his family being in this country, he too came to America and located at Eminington, Illinois, where the remainder of his life was spent.



MR. AND MRS. WILLIAM WRIGHT.

RESIDENCE OF WILLIAM WRIGHT, IRSE TOWNSHIP.



and where he lies buried. Mr. Wright had married a second time, his second wife being Cecelia Mee, who is still living, making her home in Canada.

Harriet Pendell was a daughter of William and Hephzibah (Ettridge) Pendell, also natives of Suffolk, in England, where they passed their entire lives, Harriet being born at Tannington. The Pendells were farmers and there were eight children in the family, of whom Charles, William and Edward died in England; John is still living in that country, a retired farmer. As before stated, Harriet died in her native land, while Hephzibah, her twin sister, came to the United States and died somewhere in the western portion of the country. Emma and Anna, two younger sisters, went to Australia. Mr. Wright's mother was a member of the Church of England and his father held fraternal affiliation with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and also belonged to the blacksmiths' union. The elder Wright never took any special interest in politics after coming to this country, but in his native land he was quite active in local political matters, being known as a strong Conservative.

William Wright is the eldest of a family of nine children. The others are Harriet, wife of Charles Potts, still living in her native land; Agnes and Elizabeth, both of whom died unmarried in England; Robert Edward died in childhood; Walter, who came to this country, finished his days at Des Moines, Iowa; Alfred is a farmer living near Williams, Hamilton county, Iowa; Hannah is the wife of Charles Gillingham, living in Winnipeg, Canada; Robert, another son, died in early childhood.

William Wright received his education in the public schools of England, at Ipswich, his home and later was apprenticed to the machinist's trade, which he followed until 1873, when he came to America, and after a year, during which time he visited different points, he located in Michigan, where he found work at his trade and did well until the arrival of a panic, which threw him out of work. He then went to Dwight, Illinois, and near that city secured work on a farm, where he remained for two years. By that time he had decided that he would make agricultural work his life vocation and forsake the line his fathers had followed for so many years. He rented a farm in Livingston county, Illinois, and lived there until 1907 when he came to Otter Tail county, this state, and purchased a farm of three hundred and forty acres in Buse township, where he has since made his home. Mr. Wright has a fine home with all improvements and has recently added a good silo. His place is well kept and testifies to the ability of the owner. Mr. Wright has a herd of some thirty head of his favorite Holsteins, which he is keeping for breeding purposes. He also does a dairy business and was one of the first to advocate the local creamery. He was one of its organ

izers and was president for several years. Mr. Wright is now acting as president of the Farmers Co-operative Elevator Company of Fergus Falls, and has in various ways given evidence of his interest in all that makes for the progress of the commercial life of the community. A Republican in politics, Mr. Wright has served as township supervisor three times and has also taken an active interest in other ways. His fraternal affiliation is held with the Modern Woodmen of America and in the work of that order he takes considerable interest.

William Wright was married on December 23, 1875, to Betsey Collins, a native of Medborne, England, and a daughter of Joseph and Elizabeth (Searcy) Collins. To this union were born five children. Harriet, the eldest, is the wife of Claud Vaughn and lives near Underwood, Minnesota. She is the mother of one child, William. Mary is the wife of Charles Pierce and makes her home with Mr. Wright. She has three children, Hattie, George and Helen. George, the third child of the Wright family, died at the age of sixteen years, while Frederick, the youngest, was killed at the same age. Mr. Wright has one unmarried child at home, this is his son, Searcy.

Mr. Wright is one of the representative men of his section and one of the most progressive citizens. Honorable and upright in all his dealings with his fellow men, he is eminently entitled to the esteem in which he is held.

THORSTEN S. MOKLEV.

Among the prosperous farmers and well-known popular citizens of Clitherall township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, is Thorsten S. Moklev, who was born at Suledal, near Stavanger, Norway, August 29, 1868, and who is the son of Somjo Thorstenson Moklev and Kari Thorstensdatter Lali Helgenes.

Mr. Moklev's paternal grandparents were Thorsten Somjoson Moklev and Dortha Levarsdatter Forland, who were born at Suledal, Stavanger, Norway, and who were married in Suledal. They spent their entire lives in their native land, being farmers by occupation. They had only two children, Somjo Thorstenson and Anna. The latter married Gabriel Falkelie, and died in Norway. They had one son, Olai G. Twedt, who lives in Dunn county, North Dakota, and another son, Jacob, who died in Norway.

Mr. Moklev's maternal grandparents were Thosten Thostenson Lali and Mallena Knutsdatter Helgenes, who came to America in 1867 and settled in the state of Illinois. After living there less than one year, with their sons, Thorsten and Knut, and their daughters, Martha and Malina, moved to Otter Tail county. Thosten Thostenson Lali settled on what is now the

Hans Olson place in Tordenskjold township, where he lived for about three years. Subsequently, he homesteaded a farm which is now owned by Christian L. Moe, and there he lived for some years, or until 1881, when he moved to the place now occupied by his son, Tosten, which he purchased. There he died at an advanced age about 1886. They had six children, four daughters, Kari, Brita, Martha and Malina; and two sons, Tosten and Knut. Brita and Knut are deceased, the others are living in 1916.

Somjo Thorstenson Moklev was born on September 10, 1835, at Suledal, Stavanger, Norway, and Kari Thorstendatter Lali was born on August 4, 1843. They were married in the spring of 1867, and she remained in Norway with her husband, while her parents, brothers and sisters came to America. Somjo T. Moklev was at first connected with the fishing industry for twenty winters. In the summer time, for twelve of these years, he was employed in the woolen-mill operated by his father. For the next eight years he was engaged in farming. In 1880, with his wife and two children, he came to America, joining his wife's relatives in Tordenskjold township. In June, 1880, he homesteaded one hundred and twenty acres in Clitherall township and to this homestead he moved on July 2, 1880. It was timber land principally. He built a log cabin on the farm and used birch-bark and dirt for a roof. This farm is now occupied by his son, Martin, and is in a splendid state of cultivation. The sons, however, did most of the work on the farm. He died in July, 1910, at the age of seventy-five years. His wife is still living and resides with her son, Martin. She is seventy-two years old. Both of Thorsten S. Moklev's parents were members of the Free Lutheran church at Battle Lake. They were the parents of three children, of whom Thorsten S. was the eldest, Martin lives on the homestead farm in Clitherall township, and Dena Karina married John Nelson and lives in Tordenskjold township.

Thorsten S. Moklev attended school in his native land for eighteen weeks each winter for four winters and, in the meantime, learned to read and write the Scandinavian language. He also attended school for one month in the fall of 1880, one month in the fall of 1881 and one month in the fall of 1886, in the Battle Lake schools. Mr. Moklev was reared as a pioneer boy in Clitherall township and lived at home until his marriage at the age of thirty-two years.

After Mr. Moklev's marriage, in 1901, he moved to one hundred and sixty acres which he had previously purchased. He first bought eighty acres in the spring of 1896 and shortly afterward added another eighty acres. Upon moving to this farm, he built a house and barn and a granary and it is a splendid home today. He is engaged in general farming.

On March 18, 1901, Thorsten S. Moklev was married to Sigrid Thor-

modsdatter Kittelstad, a native of Norway, the daughter of Thormod Kittelstad, who died in Norway. Mrs. Moklev came to America in 1897. She died on May 26, 1909. Mr. and Mrs. Moklev were the parents of five children, one of whom, Sigurd Theodore, the youngest, died in infancy. The living children are: Carrie Mallena, Ida Patrina, Selwin Anton and Thea Mathilda.

The Moklev family are all members of the Lutheran church. Mr. Moklev has been a trustee in the church since he was twenty-eight years old. When he was twenty-two years old, he was made road overseer and served for four years. Upon the organization of school district No. 257, of which he was one of the organizers, he was made school treasurer, serving five years and then resigned. He also resigned as trustee of the Battle Lake church, and also resigned as township supervisor of Clitherall, which office he held for three years. In 1906 Mr. Moklev moved to Battle Lake and, from January 1 to August 15, carried the mail on rural route No. 1 from Battle Lake. He then returned to the farm and has lived there ever since. On his return to the farm he was appointed clerk of school district No. 257, and was re-elected and has been filling this office continually ever since. In 1915 he was again elected supervisor of Clitherall township, which position he now fills. In a political way, Mr. Moklev is identified with the Republican party and supports the Republican platform and Republican candidates. No man in Clitherall township is more highly respected and more thoroughly entitled to the generous esteem of his neighbors and fellow citizens than Thorsten S. Moklev.

EDMUND MCFARLANE.

Edmund McFarlane is one of the pioneer business men of Parkers Prairie, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, and still conducts the business which he originally established. He is one of ten children born to the union of his parents, Robert and Margaret (Anderson) McFarlane, both natives of Scotland. Robert McFarlane was born in Glasgow, Scotland, and emigrated to Canada, where he was employed making potash. When he reached maturity he became a farmer in the Dominion, remaining there until his death. To Robert McFarlane and his wife were born ten children, Edmund having been born on August 6, 1862, in Lanark county, Ontario, Canada.

Edmund McFarlane received his education in the schools of the Dominion and emigrated to the United States in 1881, joining his three brothers who had preceded him to Douglas county, Minnesota. In 1882 he removed to Otter Tail county, Minnesota, locating in Parkers Prairie, where he at once engaged in the business of harness making, which business he still

continues. The business was at first operated in partnership with his brother, W. K., and their place was opened to the public on January 6, 1882. The partnership continued for one year, at which time Edmund McFarlane purchased the brother's interest and has since operated the store on an independent basis. He carries a complete line of goods.

In 1886 Edmund McFarlane was united in marriage to Mary E. Taylor and they are the parents of six children: Nettie (deceased), Elsie Pearl, Myrtle Joy, Loyd Edmund, Etta Val and Lyle K. Mary E. (Taylor) McFarlane was born in Lime Spring, Iowa, and her death occurred in 1903. Mr. McFarlane is affiliated with the Republican party, and is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and Knights of the Maccabees.

NELS HUSTAD.

Nels Hustad, a prosperous farmer of Clitherall township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, was born in Mitchell county, Iowa, November 15, 1865, and is the son of Mr. and Mrs. L. J. Kjernes.

Mr. Hustad's parents were born in Norway and immigrated to America in 1864. His father, who was a laborer, died in Iowa, in 1865, prior to the birth of his son, Nels. Nels was the only son. After his father's death, his mother was married to Ole J. Hustad, who was also a native of Norway, and after that Mr. Hustad adopted his stepfather's name. In June, 1868, the family moved to Otter Tail county, Minnesota.

After living one summer in Otter Tail county, the family homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres in section 20, of Clitherall township. At that time the nearest neighbors were four miles south and six miles northeast at the old village of Clitherall. The Hustad family had come here with two other families, those of Albert Knutson and Jens Larson Forlov. The Knutson family settled two miles north and the Forlov family one and one-fourth miles northwest of the Hustads. During the summer they had lived in a covered wagon and had laid up a supply of hay for the winter. As fall came the Hustad family built a dugout with a sod roof and lived in it for three years. In the meantime, various parts of the farm were cleared and put under cultivation. During the second year the family cleared about an acre and one-half, but the crop was destroyed by birds and gophers. About 1871 a log house was built near the dugout and there the family lived for five years. Afterward a house was built over the excavation of the dugout. This was a larger log house, which was used until 1898, when Nels Hustad built the present home, which is a comfortable frame dwelling.

Mr. Hustad's stepfather died in 1878 and his mother never remarried.

She lived with her son until her death on August 5, 1914. The Hustads are all members of the Norwegian Lutheran church. There were no children born to the marriage of Ole J. Hustad and Mrs. Kjernes.

Nels Hustad was educated in the pioneer schools of this county. In the beginning he attended school only one month out of each year, but later he was able to attend four months in the year. In the meantime he assisted his stepfather in clearing and cultivating the farm, and soon after attaining manhood took over the management of the farm. About 1900 he purchased sixty acres of land near the homestead which he owns and manages. He is doing diversified farming in small grains and live stock. Mr. Hustad is a director in the Farmers Co-operative Elevator Company and president of the Battle Lake Co-operative Creamery Company. He is also vice-president of the Farmers Mutual Insurance Company.

In 1884 Nels Hustad was married to Anna Paulson, a native of Norway, the daughter of Paul and Martha Paulson, who came to America about 1874 and settled in Clitherall township, this county. Both of Mrs. Hustad's parents are deceased.

To Mr. and Mrs. Nels Hustad have been born nine children: Olai, who is engaged in railroad work and lives in Duluth, Minnesota; Agnar, who is a farmer in Clitherall township; Mabel, who is a stenographer at Grand Forks; Nellie, who stays at home; Gertrude, who is a teacher in the home district; Gerhard, Marvin, Nordahl and Johnnie, all of whom stay at home.

Mr. Hustad has served as a member of the board of supervisors for the past fifteen years and is independent in politics. Mr. Hustad and family are all members of the Lutheran church.

WILLIAM R. PERKINS

Prominent among the men of Parkers Prairie township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, who have achieved success in their chosen vocation is William R. Perkins, farmer and merchant. He is a native of St. Cloud, Minnesota, and his birth occurred on December 16, 1869. His parents located in Parkers Prairie township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, in 1869, and it was in the schools of this place that William R. Perkins received his education. He was reared on his father's farm and assisted with the work on the home place until twenty years of age, at which time he began active operations for himself in the agricultural line. He continued to cultivate the soil in Parkers Prairie township until 1903. He owns the old home place, consisting of one hundred and sixty acres, part of which is rented, but he has retained two hundred and forty acres of the three hundred and forty-seven acres which constitute his holdings, and this is devoted to the

breeding and raising of cattle. In 1907 he began the buying of stock and continued in this business until 1915, during which time he purchased stock throughout the country.

In January, 1915, William R. Perkins invested in the "City" meat market and has since conducted this business in a very thorough manner, making many friends who speak highly of him. For the past six years he has also been identified with the real-estate operations of the community and shows much ability in this line.

In February, 1896, William R. Perkins was united in marriage to Millie Parks, now deceased, and to them were born two children: Ruth, born on October 6, 1897, and Dortha G., born on December 24, 1901. Millie Parks was born in 1876, the daughter of George Parks. William R. Perkins is affiliated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows.

AUGUST F. REVERING.

One who has achieved success through constant application to business affairs and who has lived up to the highest ideals of citizenship is August F. Revering, who is known throughout the state in which he lives as an authority on questions pertaining to the lumber interests. August F. Revering was born on the 24th of October, 1886, in Parkers Prairie, Minnesota, and is the son of Clemens and Anna (Barnack) Revering, both of whom were born in Germany. The parents of the subject of this sketch came to America in 1851 and located in Effington township, this county, where Clemens Revering bought a farm of one hundred and sixty acres. Since that time he has added more territory until now the farm extends over three hundred and twenty acres of land. It still remains the residence of Mr. Revering and his wife. August Revering is a son in a family of eleven children, eight of whom are living.

The early educational advantages received by the subject of this sketch were obtained in the common schools of Parkers Prairie. He later attended the St. Thomas College at St. Paul. Upon completing the course prescribed in college, August Revering entered the lumber field and started in business in Parkers Prairie, where he remained only a few months before going to New York Mills, this county. Since 1909 he has resided at Dent, where he is general manager of the Wilcox Lumber Company. In all his business activities Mr. Revering has plunged into ventures with the same courage and enthusiasm which prompted his father to take up his residence among pioneer conditions and built up a home amid an unsettled region of prairie land.

In 1912 August F. Revering married Kattie Heembrock, a native of Edna township, and the daughter of Ferdinand and Anna Heembrock. To

Mr. and Mrs. Revering the following children have been born: Arthur, who was born in 1913, and Irene, who was born in 1915. Mr. and Mrs. Revering are members of St. Joseph's Catholic church. In his political relations, Mr. Revering is a member of the Democratic party, and enters heartily into every political movement. He is affiliated fraternally with the Knights of Columbus.

GILBERT T. STROMMEN.

Although several years have elapsed since the subject of this biographical sketch departed this life, he is still held in remembrance by many friends and old neighbors and the influence of the worthy life he led still lives on.

Gilbert T. Strommen was born in Lafayette county, Wisconsin, on October 7, 1864, son of Torgrim A. and Beret Strommen, both natives of Norway. They were educated and married in their native land and two of their children were born before the time they emigrated to America. They came directly to Wisconsin and were for a time located in Lafayette county, but shortly moved to Green county. However, they did not long remain there and moved again, that time to Buffalo county, same state, where the remaining days of their lives were spent and where both lie buried. Torgrim A. Strommen was a farmer all his life and prospered well in his new surroundings. There were twelve children in their family, eight of whom grew to maturity. The eldest is Carrie, who is the wife of Ole H. Sween and resides in Buffalo, Wisconsin. Andreas is a farmer in Green county of that state. Anders died in Buffalo, leaving his widow and a family of six children. Edward lives in Spokane, Washington. Thonetta (who was the wife of the Reverend Th. M. Bake) is deceased. Ole and Anton are engaged in farming at Stanley, North Dakota.

Gilbert T. Strommen received his education in the common schools of Green county, Wisconsin, where he lived until 1889. He was an ambitious young man and desired to enter a university near his home, so as to be fitted for a larger place in life. It was necessary for him to earn the money with which to defray the expenses of a university career and to that end he worked at the carpenter trade for a number of years. In spite of his best efforts, he was thirty years of age before he was able to take up the work of higher education, when he entered a university in Minneapolis and then was compelled to suffer the acute disappointment of failing health, which forced him to give up his books and return to the less confining life of his trade. When he found that must be his life work, he put his best efforts into it and became a most capable contractor.

Upon leaving Green county in 1889, he took up his residence in Buffalo,



GILBERT T. STROMMEN AND FAMILY

that state, where he remained until 1897 at which time he became a resident of Otter Tail county, Minnesota. He purchased a farm of one hundred and fifty-five acres near Aurdal, where he made his home until 1904, managing his farm and at the same time conducting a profitable business as building contractor. Many of the better buildings in this portion of the state stand as monuments to his skill. He superintended the erection of the original St. Luke's hospital, at Fergus Falls, the parsonage in Ostead, remarkably large barns for Peter Sande and John Adams, both of this county. In addition to his two vocations already mentioned, he at different times engaged in the mercantile business in both North Dakota and Minnesota. He left his farm in 1904 and went to Fergus Falls to make his home, residing for a time near the court house, and from there moved to Dalton, Minnesota, where he operated a hardware store. He disposed of that business and returned to Fergus Falls, where he purchased three acres inside the city corporation lines and set himself the task of making a beautiful home. The residence on the ground was remodeled, as were other buildings, and a new barn was erected. A fine orchard was set out and a fine selection of fruit trees and small fruits planted and the entire place brought up to a high degree of beauty and comfort. Here he lived but a short time, his death occurring on December 27, 1910.

Gilbert T. Strommen was married on October 7, 1896, to Louisa Bruvold, born in Buffalo county, Wisconsin, daughter of Anders E. and Mary E. (Johnson) Bruvold, both were born in Norway. Both came to this country with their respective families when young, were educated in this land and after marriage settled in Buffalo county, Wisconsin. He was a carpenter and farmer and died there while still a comparatively young and active man. His widow afterward married Andrew O. Huff and still resides in the county mentioned. Mrs. Strommen came of a family of seven children, one of whom died in infancy, and is the second child in order of birth. The eldest is Bertha, who died in Wisconsin, the wife of Andrew Thon. Anna, whose death occurred in 1906, was the wife of Knut Bren and the mother of four children. Theolina lives in Buffalo, Wisconsin, and is the wife of John Julson. The little child who died was called Julia and after her death the next little daughter was given the same name and this Julia still remains with the mother, unmarried. Albert, the youngest of the family, is a farmer and manages the home place.

To Gilbert T. Strommen and his wife were born eight children, three of whom died in infancy, the others remaining unmarried. They are, Borgbild, Marie, Theodore Arnold, Laura Beatha, Ella Alvilda, Gottfried Kalmer (died in infancy), Arthur Kalmer, and Gladys Louisa and Clifford Till-

man, both of whom are deceased. Both Mr. and Mrs. Strommen united with the Lutheran church when young and she still remains a faithful member, as was he all his life. Mr. Strommen was a man of broad and liberal views, charitable to all, and so ordered his life as to win the confidence and respect of all who knew him either in a business or social way. In politics he was a Republican, although he never aspired to office nor took any special interest in political questions.

HUGH H. HALL.

Among those citizens who are actively engaged in the promotion of civic betterment and commercial advancement of their respective communities, Hugh H. Hall is the recipient of the sincere regard of his friends and associates. He was born on March 26, 1868, in Sparta, Wisconsin, and is the son of Hamilton H. and Anna (King) Hall. Hamilton H. Hall was born in Canada and his wife, Anna (King) Hall, was born in Sheboygan, Wisconsin. The maternal grandparents of Hugh H. Hall were William and Lydia (Adams) King, both natives of New York state. William King was a farmer and followed this vocation in Wisconsin during his entire life. Lydia (Adams) King passed away in the early summer of 1915, at the age of ninety.

Hamilton H. Hall, father of Hugh H. Hall, received his education in Wisconsin, and in 1861 enlisted for service in the Civil War, being mustered into the Eighth Regiment, Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, known as the "Eagle Regiment." During one of the battles he was struck by a shell and part of his breast was torn away, but upon his recovery from this wound he remained in service until the close of the war. At the close of the great conflict Hamilton H. Hall returned to his home in Wisconsin, where he was married. Immediately after this event he removed to Parkers Prairie township, this county, where he secured one hundred and sixty acres of land, which homestead was one of the first entered in that township. After more than forty years of successful cultivation of this farm he removed to Oregon in 1910, where he retired to the town of Newberg, where he died. Anna (King) Hall, widow of Hamilton H. Hall, is still a resident in the town of Newberg. They were the parents of ten children: Harry, postmaster of Iron River, Wisconsin; Mina, Hugh, James, Lydia, Amy, Walter, Warren, Pearl and Edith. In seeking their respective fortunes and following the dictates of their ambitions, these children have wandered far from the parental roof-tree and reside in various parts of the United States. Hamilton H. Hall, during his life, was actively engaged in agricultural pursuits, as well as in the political campaigns of his time, in the

interests of which he made many trips to Fergus Falls, Minnesota. At the time of his removal from Sparta, Wisconsin, to his home in Minnesota, the journey was undertaken with an ox-team and one cow, the three children being compelled to walk most of the distance. He was the first county commissioner from this district and served in that capacity for eight years. He held many township offices and was very active in the Baptist church affairs. He was also a member of the Grand Army of the Republic.

Hugh H. Hall received his education in the local schools of Parkers Prairie and was a student in the Alexandria high school. Upon the completion of his student days he assisted his father with the work on the home place, later engaging in the livery business in Parkers Prairie for a period of three years. This business has been most successful, and a sales stable has been added, which he has conducted for the past fifteen years.

On December 8, 1899, Hugh H. Hall was united in marriage to Bertha Goelette, daughter of Monteville Goelette, a pioneer of Parkers Prairie township. They are the parents of seven children: Morris, Hazel, Alice, Glenn, Veda, Kenneth and Eugene. Fraternally, Hugh H. Hall is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America, and in religious matters is an active supporter of the Baptist church.

JOHN P. POST.

John P. Post has been distinctive in his individuality and, as a consequence, has gained the recognition that must always come to those who strive to accomplish things worth while. Poorly equipped with an education, he has risen from a blacksmith to one of the prominent and progressive business men of his locality and has even extended his commercial interests to the surrounding country.

John P. Post was born in 1861 in Key West, Iowa, and is the son of Nicholas and Odelia (Dumond) Post. The birthplace of John P. Post was located about twenty miles south of Dubuque, Iowa, but he grew to maturity in Minnesota, where he removed with his parents at an early age. His education was also received in Minnesota. Nicholas Post, father of John P. Post, was rather an unusual man, for he had the courage of his convictions and was willing to fight, if need be, for those things he deemed right, but was also a firm believer in arbitration, and struggled as strenuously for an amicable settlement to a question as he did when forced to use might as the best argument. He was a native of Paris, France, and his wife was a native of the city of Luxemburg, and they were married in France, emigrating to America in 1860. Shortly after their arrival in this country, the Civil War was begun and Nicholas Post was one of the first to enlist for service, being mustered into a Minnesota regiment, in which he

remained until the close of the great conflict. Directly after the war he removed to Minnesota, where he continued in his profession as contractor and builder, which he had followed in France. In connection with his building interests, he cleared and cultivated a homestead, which was located in Stearns county, Minnesota. He was one of the pioneers who settled in that locality and was instrumental in naming the town of Luxemburg. The majority of the inhabitants at that time were Prussians, and they were very desirous of having the town named according to their choice, but so well liked had Nicholas Post become that he won in spite of the many protests. After many years of service to that community he retired to the village of Cold Spring, where his death occurred. Of the nine children born to his union eight are now living and their names follow: Frank, Nicholas, John P., John, Robert, Valentine, Lizzie and Emma.

John P. Post was forced to go four miles to school and this fact was the main reason why he received so little education, as the roads in those days were very poor affairs and the severe winters of the west made travel well-nigh impossible. After assisting his father for some years with the work on the home farm he learned the trade of blacksmith and then engaged in that business in Sauk Center and Alexandria, Minnesota. In 1882 he removed to what was at that time the settlement of Parkers Prairie and opened a blacksmith shop. Eight years of planning and saving resulted in the establishment of a grist-mill, in 1890, which was the first industry of its kind in that locality. He built and operated the mill for about ten years and then sold out, for the purpose of engaging in the mercantile business, which he had previously started. About that time a railroad was built some distance from the former site of Parkers Prairie and a new settlement was built near the scene of new activities. Realizing the advantages to be gained through having his business interests in close touch with the facilities now at hand, he removed to the new town of Parkers Prairie and built the store which he now occupies and also became associated with the State Bank of that place, becoming the vice-president of same. He is, at the present time, president of this institution. The general merchandise store, which he owns and manages, contains a large and high-grade stock and is much the same as that which is carried in his store at Ogema, Minnesota. The store at Ogema is under the supervision of F. N. Hibbard, son-in-law of John P. Post.

In the fall of 1882 John P. Post was united in marriage to Louisa Steindl, a native of Austria, and daughter of Joseph Steindl. To them have been born two children, Anna and Harry.

John P. Post has been interested in the buying and selling of real estate and is still the owner of considerable property. He is a charter mem-

ber of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, which order he was instrumental in organizing in Parkers Prairie. In connection with his many other interests, he is part owner of the Prairie hotel, located in the town of Parkers Prairie. With a past of such notable achievements, surely the future will be as rich in service as his honesty and ability entitle him, and the sincere regard of his fellow citizens will be as loyal and lasting.

DAVID JOHNSON.

David Johnson, born in Jylland, Denmark, March 10, 1872, has been a resident of this county for eighteen years. His father, George Johnson, was also a native of Denmark, and was born there in April, 1841. The mother, Mary (Jergenson) Johnson, was born on February 26, 1839.

George Johnson served in the navy of his native country and also in the War of 1863, surviving the conflict unharmed. Before the war he had traveled extensively as a marine in the naval service, his travels including journeys south of the equator, made for the purpose of protecting merchant ships. As a young man George Johnson was employed as a mail carrier in the postal service. He married and later became a successful farmer and landowner. He has now retired from active work and is still living in his native country. His faithful wife died in February, 1914. To them were born nine children, as follow: Mary, wife of Samuel Sorenson, lives in Copenhagen; Mary died in infancy; John H., a farmer living in Story City, Iowa; David, the subject of the present article; Marcus, formerly a photographer, now a farmer living in Canada; Nels, who lives with his father; Annie, who died at the age of nine, and two children who died unnamed.

Hardships begun early in the life of David Johnson, for he was only a lad of seven when his young shoulders assumed the burden of making a livelihood. At that age he laid down his books to begin such farm duties as he was capable of, continuing in this work until his twentieth year, when he came to America. Joining an uncle who lived in Story City, Iowa, he worked on various farms for a period of two years. He then went to a district near Curry, Murray county, Minnesota, and after working for some time, he became a renter. He then lived and worked in Pipestone county for two years. It was in 1897 that he moved to this county, where he had bought a farm of eighty acres in section 19, Woodside township. This property, which afterward became a well-equipped, modern farm, boasted only of a log house at the time its new owner made the deal which gave him ownership of the land. With the exception of one year, during which time he engaged in mercantile business at Cass Lake, he and his family lived on this farm until 1900, during which time he cleared the land and built a splendid new barn. In the meantime he had bought also an

improved tract of land consisting of one hundred and sixty acres in section 9, adding to it a new barn, granary, machine shop and fence. This he sold in 1914 and subsequently purchased three hundred and twenty acres in sections 17 and 20. Besides cultivating the land by modern methods, the owner has erected a substantial barn and granary, and has built new fences around the entire enclosure. This well-equipped farm has been his home ever since and he has become expert in the breeding and raising of Short-horn cattle and Poland China hogs.

In 1899 David Johnson was married to Lydia, the daughter of John and Harriet Windgate, who died in England.

Mr. Johnson, who is public spirited in his inclinations, has been an honored public official, serving as school clerk and school treasurer. He is an independent voter and attends the church to which he is a liberal contributor. Both he and his wife occupy a prominent place in local church and social circles. Though not given to seeking public honors or office, Mr. Johnson has served well his community in an official capacity, and has also aided the movements which he deemed contributed to the general good. He is a man of genial nature and readily makes friends.

GILBERT N. RAKSTAD.

Gilbert N. Rakstad was born about six miles north of the city of Christiania, Norway, July 21, 1859, the son of Nels Hanson and Maria (Hanson) Hanson, who were born and grew to maturity in their native land, the mother dying there about the year 1871, and the father about twelve years later came to America and lived with his children, who had preceded him, until the year 1890, when the elder Hanson died. Nels Hanson and Maria Hanson were the parents of the following children: Peter, who came to America and died in the year 1912, leaving his second wife a widow; Bertha, who married Nels P. Rakstad and lives in Folden township; Annie, who married Ole J. Hoff, and lives at Vining, Minnesota; Nels N., a farmer of Folden township, who died during the year 1910, and Gilbert N., the subject of this sketch.

Gilbert N. Rakstad was educated in his native land and later, after coming to America, during the year 1876, he attended one term of classes in the schools of Fillmore county, Minnesota. Having joined his brother, Peter, in Fillmore county, Gilbert N. Rakstad lived there until December, 1879. He then came to Otter Tail county and was employed generally on farms, in the townships of Nidaros and St. Olaf, until the year 1880, when he homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of land in section 28, of

Folden township, a place at that time covered with timber. Gilbert N. Rakstad proceeded to clear his land and built a log house with a sod roof near where the public road is now located, and as time went on he continued to break up his ground, at the same period devoting a part of his time to working on the Northern Pacific railway, which at that time was being constructed in that locality. From time to time Mr. Rakstad added needed improvements to his farm, among which was a new house, a new barn and other buildings, which combined, today make the farm of Gilbert N. Rakstad one of the best improved in the township. Mr. Rakstad has bought forty acres of land adjoining his farm, which he now cultivates and he is a half owner of a forty-acre farm in section 21, of Folden township.

During the year 1880 Gilbert N. Rakstad was married to Ingebor Hanson, who was born in Norway, the daughter of Hans Hanson and wife, who lived and died in their native land. To the marriage of Gilbert and Ingebor Rakstad were born the following children: Nels, who is a fireman on the Great Northern railway and lives at Superior, Wisconsin; Mary, who married John Johnson, and lives at Superior, Wisconsin; Hans, who is a salesman in a store at Tacoma, Washington; Inga, who was educated at the Henning, Minnesota, high school, and who married Hans E. Vien, and now lives at Fargo, North Dakota; Hildah, who lives at home; Selmar, who is a railroad workman of Superior, Wisconsin; Nettie, who is a student at a business college of Fargo, North Dakota; and Huldah and Selmer, who died as infants.

Gilbert N. Rakstad is a director of the Vining Farmers Elevator Company, with which corporation he has been affiliated for some years and during which time he has been regarded as one of the valuable members of the directorate. In public office Mr. Rakstad has served as treasurer since the organization of the school district, and many times has been elected as township supervisor, he being one of the first three men to serve on this board and also one of the men who had the honor of organizing Folden township. At the present time Gilbert N. Rakstad is chairman of the board of supervisors, an office which this worthy citizen is serving with dignity and with efficiency. In politics, Gilbert N. Rakstad was at an earlier time a Republican, but at the present time is an independent voter.

Mr. Rakstad is a prominent member of the Lutheran church and has served his congregation as a trustee for some time. Public spirited and broad minded, a man of varied and of valuable experience, and a man of unusual executive and administrative ability, he is one of those men without whom the county and the township would be less progressive and less prosperous in business and in agricultural life.

HON. OLE O. SAGENG

Farmer, teacher, business man and all-around man of affairs, Senator Ole O. Sageng, of Tumuli township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, is the leading citizen of this section of Otter Tail county, and one of the best-known men in the state of Minnesota. Elected on the Populist ticket to the House of Representatives in 1900, Senator Sageng served during the session of 1901 and the extra session of 1902. In 1906 he was elected on the Populist ticket to the Minnesota state Senate and has served continuously ever since, having been re-elected in 1910 as a Populist, and in 1914 as a non-partisan. In 1908 he was an independent candidate for Congress from the ninth Minnesota congressional district. During the past twelve years he has been president of the Dalton Grain and Lumber Company and was one of the incorporators. For seven years Senator Sageng was manager of the Dalton Co-operative Creamery Company.

Senator Ole O. Sageng is a native of Norway, where he was born on December 1, 1871, the son of Ole H. and Mali (Dahlen) Sageng, the former of whom was born in Norway on July 9, 1839, and the latter born in Norway on February 3, 1839. They were married in Norway on April 9, 1866, and in the spring of 1878 came with their family to America. After a time, they located near Dalton, in Tumuli township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, where Mr. Sageng homesteaded forty acres of land. After fifteen years, he sold the forty-acre farm and purchased one hundred and sixty acres in the same township about four miles west of Dalton. In 1913 he retired from farming. Seven children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Ole H. Sageng, as follow: Ingeborg, Kari, Hans, Ole O., Halvor, Marit and Lars who died some years ago. The parents of these children are members of the Norwegian Lutheran church.

Of these children, Ole O. Sageng received his education in the common schools of Tumuli township and in the high school at Fergus Falls, from which he was graduated with the class of 1895. After graduating from high school, he attended the Augsburg Seminary at Minneapolis for one year and then taught school in Otter Tail county for about five years. He also taught one year in North Dakota. During the time that Ole O. Sageng was engaged in teaching, he was also engaged in farming, having started to farming in 1898 on his father's farm.

In 1900 Senator Sageng purchased a farm of one hundred and sixty acres, adjoining the town of Dalton on the north, and since that time has lived upon this farm. He is engaged in mixed farming and in stock raising.

In 1904, Ole O. Sageng was married to Kari Brandvold, who was born on December 4, 1881, and who is the daughter of K. H. Brandvold, mentioned elsewhere in this volume. To this union there have been born six



HON. OLE O. SAGENG.

children, of whom one, Ole, Jr., died in infancy. The living children are Borghild, Matilda, Karl, Maria and Olga.

Senator and Mrs. Sageng and family are members of the Norwegian Lutheran church. Senator Sageng is now secretary of the Sarpsburg congregation.

Coming from a representative family in Norway, it is not at all surprising that Senator Sageng has achieved success in his adopted home and country. His grandparents, Hans H. and Ingaborg Sageng, were prominent farmers in their native land, and it is from these sterling ancestors, no doubt, that he has inherited those worthy traits which have enabled him to succeed in a new country. Having come to America when he was a mere lad, Senator Sageng knows no country other than the United States and loves no other state so well as his own state of Minnesota, which he has served so faithfully and so well for many years.

ANTON GLENDE.

Anton Glende, a successful farmer of Everts township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, was born on February 3, 1857, in Norway. He is the son of Andrew and Kare (Bye) Glende, both of whom were natives of Norway. The former was born in 1823 and the latter about the same year. They were married in Norway and there both died. Mr. Glende's father died in 1857, when Anton Glende was about one week old. His mother died in 1867. They were the parents of five children: Anna Mary, Karen, Erick, Andrew and Anton. After the death of her first husband, Mrs. Glende was married, secondly, to Even Anderson, and to them was born one child, Thore.

Anton Glende was educated in Norway. In 1871 he accompanied his stepfather, Even Anderson, to America. The latter took a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres in Everts township and here died in 1903. Mr. Glende grew to manhood on the farm which his stepfather had bought. He owns one hundred and sixty acres of land in Everts township, upon which he has lived since 1879. Mr. Glende has cleared the land and erected substantial and commodious buildings. He is a general farmer and stock raiser.

In 1882 Anton Glende was married to Mathea Stenmark, a native of Norway, where she was born in 1862. Mrs. Glende is the daughter of John and Karen Stenmark, who moved to Rice county, Minnesota, in 1870. Later they came to Otter Tail county, and here Mrs. Glende's father died. Mrs. Glende's mother is living in Everts township.

Eleven children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Anton Glende, as

follow: Arnt Cornelius, born on September 2, 1882; Caroline, May 11, 1884; Amelia Louise, May 6, 1886; Martin, September 4, 1888; John Alfred, April 3, 1891; Clara Jorgine, November 20, 1894; Marvin Julius, February 15, 1897; Eleonora, July 5, 1899; Alyda Matilda, April 12, 1902; Anton Helmer, November 30, 1905, and George Leonard, October 2, 1908.

Mr. and Mrs. Anton Glende and family are members of the Lutheran church. The family is well known and respected in Everts township.

JOHN PETER MAJAVA.

Of those men from the country of Finland who have come to America and established themselves in Otter Tail county, where they have had no small part in the development of the locality and its resources, John Peter Majava, the subject of this sketch, is representative of those who have proved successful and who have shown themselves to be citizens of real worth to the community.

John Peter Majava, the subject of this sketch, was born in Finland, April 14, 1862, the son of David and Brita Majava, who lived their entire lives in their native country of Finland, where David Majava was a farmer and landowner. David and Brita Majava were the parents of the following children: Alex, a farmer of Newton township; Elsie Mary, who lives in Finland; Kate, who lives in Finland; John Peter, the subject of this sketch; Anna Brita, who died in childhood; David, who died in Finland, and Margaret, who died in Finland.

John Peter Majava was educated in the public schools of Finland, after which he worked on a farm until twenty-two years of age, when he came to America and settled in Calumet, Michigan, where he worked in the woods of that district for three years, and then came to the state of Minnesota, and located in Otter Tail county, where he and a brother, Alex, bought eighty acres of land in Newton township. After clearing his land and improving the place with better buildings, John P. Majava sold this farm and then bought one hundred and sixty acres of land in section 4, of Newton township, a place which he has supplied with new buildings and has otherwise improved until it is now one of the best improved farms of the locality.

John Peter Majava was married to Katie Mary Pary, a sister of Olaf Pary, one of the best known citizens of Otter Tail county, and of the town of New York Mills. To the marriage of John and Katie Majava were born three children: Jalmar Rudolph, who was born on March 4, 1901; Walfred, May 12, 1904, and Elsie Katherine, September 26, 1906.

John Peter Majava and his wife are leading members of the Finnish

Lutheran church at New York Mills, a congregation which they serve and which they support devotedly and unselfishly and with the membership of which church they are of prominent standing.

John P. Majava is one of Newton township's most appreciated citizens, one who gives of his time and of his interest for the betterment of the county and the more immediate neighborhood.

JOHN N. BROGARD.

One of the best-known citizens of Henning township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, is John N. Brogard, who was born in Sweden, October 29, 1849, and who is the son of Nels and Ingre (Jensen) Brogard. Mr. Brogard's parents were both natives of Sweden. His father died at the age of about eighty-three years, and his mother at about the same age. The latter was born in Sweden, but his father was a native of Norway, and a music director. Mr. and Mrs. Nels Brogard were the parents of four children, John, Andrew, Hans and Ingre, the two latter being deceased.

John N. Brogard was educated in the public schools of his native land. He lived with an auctioneer in Sweden and, for a number of years, did the auctioneer's writing. He attended the agricultural schools of Sweden for three years and then attended business college for six months. Finally, he was sent to Brandenburg, Germany, to obtain reports concerning agricultural conditions there. These reports were used extensively in the agricultural schools of Sweden. Afterward Mr. Brogard was a bookkeeper for three years on a large farm where nine hundred cows were kept, which required eighty people to do the milking.

In 1878 Mr. Brogard received a permit to come to the United States. After traveling in this country for two years, he returned to Sweden, where he remained for six months and then came back to the United States in 1881. For the next two years he was employed as an engineer, after which he bought one hundred and sixty acres of land in section 27, of Henning township, and now owns two hundred and forty acres. He planted a magnificent grove of trees on the farm and made many improvements. He also planted about one hundred and fifty fruit trees and has a thoroughly modern farm at the present time. His buildings are all in good condition and are all well painted. The barn is thirty-four by eighty feet. Mr. Brogard keeps Shorthorn cattle and sells a great number every year. He was the first man in this part of Minnesota to experiment with red clover. He made a very great success with red clover from the start.

On May 6, 1893, John N. Brogard was married to Ellen Parson, a native of Sweden, where she was born in 1860. She is the daughter of

Nels and Eilen Parson, who came to Otter Tail county in 1890. Mrs. Brogard's mother died in 1910, and her father is still living. To Mr. and Mrs. John Brogard have been born seven children, all of whom are living, Ida, Nels, Harold, Olga, Adric, Esther and Emmet, the last two being twins.

Mr. and Mrs. Brogard and family are members of the Norwegian Lutheran church at Henning. Mr. Brogard has always been prominent in local politics. He has served as supervisor of his township and has held other positions of trust and responsibility of a local nature.

JOHN A. JOHNSON.

John A. Johnson, prosperous farmer and well-known citizen of New York Mills, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, was born in Finland, March 2, 1865, the son of John A. and Kate Johnson, both of whom were natives of Finland, where they lived their entire life, the former dying in 1910, the latter in 1871. John A. and Kate Johnson were the parents of four children, Jacob, John A., Albert and Kate.

Following his school days in Finland, John A. Johnson came to America and, in 1886, shortly after his arrival in this country, he went to the state of Montana, where he was employed for seven years in gold and silver mines of that region. In 1893 Mr. Johnson came to Otter Tail county and located at New York Mills, near where he bought one hundred and sixty acres of land in section 8, Newton township, a place which he improved and to which he later added forty acres in Homestead township. During the year 1893, after one and one-half years' residence in New York Mills, John A. Johnson went to the Black Hills, where he again took up his work in the mines, returning eight months later to New York Mills, after which Mr. Johnson again went to the Black Hills, working as a miner for two years. At the time of gold discovery in Alaska, John A. Johnson made a journey to the Klondike region, where he mined for three years and then came back to New York Mills, a place which has been his home since. To his original farm in Newton township, John A. Johnson has added land until he now is the owner of two hundred and forty acres, one hundred and sixty acres of which is within the corporate limits of New York Mills. Mr. Johnson has improved his place with one of the best houses of the community, has erected a modern silo and has constructed such other buildings as add to the completeness of a modern farm and home. John A. Johnson now engages extensively in general farming and in stock raising, together with the conducting of a modern dairy business.

During the year 1890 John A. Johnson was married to Sophia Hen-

dricksen, who was born in Finland in 1872, the daughter of Henry Hendricksen and wife, who were pioneers of Bryan, South Dakota. To the marriage of John and Sophia Johnson have been born the following children: Mamie, who married Martin Sondergard, a butter manufacturer of Storden, Minnesota; Winnie, Ernest, Senia, George, Lucina, Edna, Oscar, Beulah, Russell and Byron. Mr. Johnson and his family are members of the Lutheran church.

John A. Johnson is affiliated with the business life of New York Mills as a member of the Farmers Shipping Association, and in the public life of the community Mr. Johnson has done no little for the township and for his town, as a member of the council, an office which he has served for seven years. In fraternal circles, John A. Johnson takes an important part in the affairs of the Modern Woodmen of America lodge at New York Mills, an organization of which he has been an honored member for eight years.

MIKKEL RINDAL.

Born in Norway, October 30, 1839, Mikkal Rindal, a prominent citizen of Sverdrup township, who has enjoyed a large success in agriculture, is the son of John E. and Britt (Almberg) Rindal, both of whom were natives of Norway. Mikkal Rindal's father was born in Norway on August 12, 1812, and his mother in February, 1814.

The late John E. Rindal died in Norway in 1873 and, after his death, his widow came to America in 1875 and settled in Otter Tail county, where she died in 1882. To John E. and Britt (Almberg) Rindal were born eleven children: Anne, Even (deceased), Mikkal, Bridt (deceased), Bridt (deceased), John (deceased), John, Bridt, Johanna, Ingeborg (deceased) and Ingebregt.

Mikkal Rindal was reared in Norway and was educated in the public schools of his native land. He came to America in 1875 with his mother and shortly thereafter settled in Otter Tail county. Three years later he homesteaded one hundred and fifty acres of land and, during the next few years, made many improvements upon this land.

Three years after coming to America, Mikkal Rindal was married in Otter Tail county, Minnesota, to Rannei O. Anne, who was born in Norway in 1848, and is the sister of Ole O. Anne, a prosperous farmer of Sverdrup township. Mr. and Mrs. Rindal are the parents of five children: Mary, deceased; John, who was born on the old homestead on August 18, 1880, educated in the public schools of this township, and lives at home on the farm; Ole, who was born in 1882, was also educated in the public

schools and is now a farmer; Mary, born in 1884, is the wife of John Pahan, of Pingree, Stutsman county, North Dakota, and Berntine, who was born in 1886, lives at home with her parents.

All of the members of the Rindal family are identified with the Lutheran Brothers church. They are prominent in religious affairs and are widely known in this community as deserving citizens and successful farmers.

CORNELIUS B. ERICKSON.

Cornelius B. Erickson is one of fourteen children born to the union of Berger and Olena (Alberts) Erickson, both natives of Norway, and his birth occurred in 1865 in Adams county, Wisconsin. The marriage of Berger and Olena (Alberts) Erickson was solemnized in their native land and they emigrated to America in 1852, locating in Wisconsin, where he followed his trade of tailor until the age of forty years, at which time he was compelled to discontinue the vocation he had planned as his life work, on account of the failure of his eyesight, and engage in agricultural pursuits. While a resident of Wisconsin, Berger Erickson was the owner of a farm but never cultivated the soil until his removal to Otter Tail county, Minnesota, in 1871, when he became the purchaser of school land, located in section 36, Dane Prairie township, on which he still resides, at the advanced age of ninety years. His wife, Olena (Alberts) Erickson, passed to her eternal rest in the spring of 1911, leaving her husband and her nine surviving children to mourn her loss. Besides an original purchase of land, Berger Erickson entered a homestead, located one-half mile north of his first tract and added more until the farm now consists of three hundred and twenty acres of land, very well improved. He is a veteran of the Civil War, having served in the Wisconsin volunteer infantry.

The paternal grandparents of Cornelius B. Erickson were Erick and Petronelle Erickson, both natives of Norway, the death of the latter having occurred in that country, but the former emigrated to America after the death of his wife and died at the home of his son, Berger Erickson, in Wisconsin. The maternal grandparents of Cornelius B. Erickson were Ole and Sigre Alberts, both natives of Norway, where they lived and died.

Cornelius B. Erickson received his education in the district schools, and while very young discontinued his studies to assist his father with the work on the home place and when twenty-four years of age purchased the farm on which he still resides. This investment was arranged in the fall of 1884, but his residence on the same was not effected until the following spring. The house was built of logs and all improvements were very poor,

but owing to his thrift and well-directed energy, new buildings have been erected and they are very excellent ones, indeed. General agriculture and stock raising is the system on this well-managed farm. A specialty of Shorthorn cattle is made and a dairy herd, of from twelve to fifteen head, is constantly kept on hand.

Cornelius B. Erickson was united in marriage to Olena Bakke in 1887, and to them have been born four children: Benjamin, Clarence, Palmer and Clinton. The family are members of the Norwegian Lutheran church and are earnest supporters of that faith. Olena (Bakke) Erickson is a native of Iowa.

Cornelius B. Erickson has a reputation of high repute, as is evidenced by the many positions of trust which he has held, two of the offices having been town supervisor and township treasurer. He served eight and three years, respectively, in these offices. The original farm of Cornelius B. Erickson consisted of one hundred and seventeen acres, but this has been increased until, at the present time, he owns two hundred and fifteen acres. Cornelius B. Erickson is a brother of Ole and Bennie Erickson, mentioned elsewhere in the pages of this history.

J. H. WELCH.

Of those citizens who have been a success in agricultural pursuits and who have done their part in the development of the community and have now retired to the more quiet walks of life, J. H. Welch, the subject of this sketch, is one of the best known and one of the most highly respected. A man who saw his efforts prosper, not only as a farmer, but as a man in public life and a citizen who is able to look back upon a life well spent, he is a worthy part of a work of this kind.

J. H. Welch was born in the state of Pennsylvania, June 12, 1850, the son of James Welch, who was born in Ireland, and of Harriette (Vargason) Welch, who was born in Bradford county, Pennsylvania. James Welch, following his education in his native land, came to America, about the year 1840, and settled in the state of Pennsylvania, where he followed his trade as a contractor and public worker for some years, he also marrying there, a marriage to which were born the following children: Abbie, who lives in Pennsylvania; Frederick, a farmer and bridge worker, who died in 1902; J. H., the subject of this sketch; John, a mail carrier, who is deceased; William, who lives at Athens, Pennsylvania; and George, who died at New Brunswick, Canada. James Welch and his family were members of the Catholic church, but later he joined the Protestant church.

J. H. Welch was educated in the common schools of Bradford county,

Pennsylvania, after which he went to the state of Iowa, in the year 1865, locating in Buchanan county, where he worked on a farm for some years. In the year 1890 he came to Otter Tail county, Minnesota, and settled in Inman township, where he bought eighty acres of land, for which he paid the sum of twenty-five dollars per acre, and after living on the farm for thirteen years he disposed of his place, receiving for it the sum of seventy-five dollars per acre. During the year 1913 J. H. Welch retired from his farm and moved to the town of Deer Creek, Minnesota, where he bought six town lots, on one of which he now lives, having a convenient and desirable home.

On September 16, 1885, J. H. Welch was married to Mrs. Sarah Curtis, the widow of Orin G. Curtis, a soldier in the Ninth Regiment, Iowa Volunteer Infantry, who, while serving in the Civil War, contracted the small-pox and died in the army hospital at Louisville, Kentucky.

To Mr. and Mrs. Curtis were born four children, two of whom died in infancy. The living children are Esther and Mrs. C. H. Vergason, both of Deer Creek. Mr. and Mrs. Welch have no children.

J. H. Welch is a prominent member and worker in the Church of God, a congregation with which he has been affiliated for a short time. J. H. Welch is one of the honored and respected men of Deer Creek, Minnesota, he being the type of pioneer without whom and without whose efforts the county would be less progressive and less advanced.

JACOB NIEBELS.

The late Jacob Niebels, who was one of the well-known citizens of Fergus Falls, Minnesota, during the generation just passed, was a native of Creafeld, Prussia, where he was born in 1842. Mr. Niebels came with his parents to America in 1851, when he was nine years old. His parents remained in Milwaukee for one year and then moved to Owatonna, Minnesota, and settled on a farm.

Jacob Niebels spent his early years on the farm and received his early education in the schools of Owatonna, assisting his father on the farm during the summer months and attending school during the winter months until he was seventeen years old. At that age, he began to learn the plow manufacturing trade and later went to Faribault, Minnesota, where he found employment in the plow factory operated by Christian Holmberg. In 1862 he was married to Augusta Holmberg, the daughter of Christian Holmberg, and it was only a short time later that his regiment, in which he had enlisted as a Union soldier, was ordered to the South. Leaving St. Paul on April 18, 1862, he participated in the battle of Iuka as his first experience as a



MR. AND MRS. JACOB NIEBELS

soldier in the great Civil War. He was a musician and his regiment was engaged in the battles of Corinth, Vicksburg, Missionary Ridge, Atlanta and Savannah. Mr. Niebels was a soldier in Sherman's army and accompanied his army from Memphis, Tennessee, to the sea and northward through the Carolinas to Washington, D. C., where the Grand Review marked the close of the long years of strife and it was his band which first entered Washington. There is one feature of Mr. Niebel's record as a soldier that requires explanation. He was sentenced to the military prison for burning cotton, having been unjustly convicted, as the cotton was burned by Frank Studefant, against Niebel's protest. By order of President Lincoln, they were both released and ordered back to their regiment and participated in the movements which resulted in the surrender of the rebel army. While Mr. Niebels did not carry a gun during a greater part of the war, since he was a member of the regimental band, in several engagements, he was obliged to do so, especially where the rebels outnumbered the federal forces.

Upon returning to his home after the close of the war, Mr. Niebels resumed his work in the plow factory as a partner of his father-in-law and this arrangement continued until 1876, when Mr. Niebels and his young family moved to Waseca, where he purchased a gun and sporting goods store, which he operated until 1882. At this time he moved to Fergus Falls, Minnesota, and established a similar store on Lincoln avenue, west, in this city. This store he conducted up until the time of his death, which occurred on April 16, 1913.

By Mr. Niebels' marriage to Augusta Holmberg, March 28, 1862, there were born three children, Albert J., Clara L. and Harold E. Mrs. Niebels is the daughter of Christian and Ellen (Romberg) Holmberg, her father having come to America from Konsberg, near Christiana, Norway. The family came to America in 1851 and immediately thereafter, settled at Racine, Wisconsin, where they remained for one year. They then moved to Manistee, Michigan, where they lived for three years, during which time Mr. Holmberg was a mill overseer. The family then moved to Beaver Dam, where he was engaged in repairing plows and guns. His next move was to Faribault, where he engaged in the manufacture of plows.

Of the three children born to Mr. and Mrs. Niebels, Albert J. lives in Providence, Rhode Island. He married Mable L. Carpenter, the daughter of Alva Carpenter and the sister of Rev. Alva Carpenter. They have one son, Alva, born on January 17, 1908. Clara L. married Louis Keane, of New York City, and has four children, Pauline C., Kenneth C., Muriel C. and Eleanor. Harold E. is a graduate of the Fergus Falls high school and of the dental department of the University of Minnesota. He finished the

course in 1914 and immediately thereafter began the practice of his profession in Fergus Falls, where he has a fine practice and one which is growing rapidly. He has a most enviable reputation for careful and painstaking work and is well known in the social life of this city and county.

Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Niebels celebrated their golden wedding anniversary on March 28, 1912. A large number of the old settlers of Fergus Falls and the surrounding country honored this worthy couple with their presence on that day. It was an enjoyable evening, spent principally in discussing pioneer times. Mr. Niebels was a man of strong opinions, straightforward and fearless in expressing them. He always manifested a deep interest in public affairs and made his views felt in public matters. His death was a great loss to the city where he lived and was mourned by a host of friends throughout the county.

A. ALBERT FRANK.

A. Albert Frank, farmer of Buse township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, was born in Waseca county, this state, March 1, 1867, son of Ludwig and Millie (Manwiler) Frank.

Mr. Frank's ancestors come from Prussian Poland and he has some interesting family history to relate concerning the enforced military service of that country. Ludwig Frank was a son of John Frank, who was one of a family of twelve children, eleven boys and one girl, and the father wishing to save his sons from compulsory military service, moved his sons to another location. Their hiding place was not learned by the authorities and officers came to forcibly take the sons away. These sons were in hiding and the old man declared he did not know where they were. The officers hung him up by the hair of his head for an hour, but even that torture did not force him to disclose the whereabouts of his boys. Of these sons, only John and Andrus are definitely known of. Andrus finally went into the army and served seven years, but when he got into active service he found he had considerable dislike of bullets and made his escape. He arrived at home and stayed hidden in the barn until the close of that war. His army was defeated and he, therefore, had no need to fear showing himself. He took up his residence on the old homestead there and it is related he lived happily ever after. John acquired land of his own in Prussian Poland, where he spent his entire life and reared his family of seven children. There were two sons, Julius and Ludwig, and to Julius fell the family homestead, where he passed his entire life.

Ludwig Frank (who was born in 1827) was, therefore, forced to find a location for himself, and in the spring of 1855 he set sail for America

and after nine long weeks at sea, his boat landed at the port of Quebec, Canada. Ludwig Frank worked his way to Wisconsin and settled in Marquette county. He was accompanied on his journey by his bride, to whom he was married just the day before he set sail. He secured work in the harvest fields of Marquette county at fifty cents per day, and later bought eighty acres of land there, where he lived for four and one-half years. He decided he was not suited in his location there, and disposed of his farm without making out any papers, and together with his wife and two small children he set out for Minnesota, with an ox-team which hauled their few precious belongings, driving his live stock ahead. They crossed the Mississippi river at LaCrosse and journeyed on into the central portion of the state and reached their destination near New Ulm. There, in 1860, Ludwig Frank took up a claim of one hundred and sixty acres and proceeded to establish a home and friendly relations with the Indians, who were there in great numbers and paid visits to the home of the paleface every day. The land there was all prairie and the winters extremely severe, so after two years in that location, in the spring of 1862, he moved his family to Waseca county and there secured work among the farmers of that county. For a year or so he rented land and in the spring of 1865 purchased a farm of eighty acres in section 24, of Wilton township, where he made his home for a great many years.

In 1890 Ludwig Frank sold his homestead and moved to a forty-acre farm nearby, where he lived at the time of his death, in January, 1902. His good and faithful wife is still living in Waseca, this state, at the advanced age of eighty-two years. She is a native of Bradenburg, Germany, and enjoys remarkable health and vigor for one of her age, especially when the hardships of her earlier life and pioneer days are taken into consideration. Both Ludwig Frank and his wife were members of the German Evangelical church. There were eight children in their family, Albert being the fifth child in order of birth. The eldest is William, who is a farmer in Waseca county; Minnie is the wife of Joe Fromlath and lives at Lisbon, North Dakota; Ludwig died at Rochester, this state, although he had lived in Waseca county; Millie is the wife of John Hoffman, of Redwood county, this state; Ed is unmarried and makes his home in Detroit, Minnesota; Matilda, who lives in Waseca, has been twice married, her first husband being Julius Kelm and her second husband Herman Janka; Emma also lives in Redwood county, and is the wife of Paul Schroeder.

Albert Frank received his education in the public schools of Waseca county and was raised on the farm. He assumed the management of the homestead in 1890 and continued there until 1912, having purchased it in

the meantime. In that year he disposed of the old farm and came to Otter Tail county and on April 15, 1912, contracted for a farm of two hundred and four acres in Buse township, where he has since made his home. This farm is equipped with good buildings and is an up-to-date home in all respects. In Waseca county Mr. Frank had given particular attention to the breeding of Duroc-Jersey hogs and Brown Leghorn hens, but in Buse township he goes into general farming, raising only a small amount of live stock.

Albert Frank was married on June 26, 1893, to Albertina Klinger, born at Kaiser-Dramberg, Pomern, Prussia, Germany, April 18, 1873. She is a daughter of Gottlieb and Albertina (Pust) Klinger, both natives of that place. Mrs. Frank came to the United States in 1892. Gottlieb Klinger came to America with his family and landed at St. Johns, Canada, and from there they journeyed on to this state, reaching their destination in Waseca county on April 20, 1896. They are farming people and are now living in quiet retirement in the town of Waseca. Mr. and Mrs. Frank have nine children in their family, namely: Benjamin, who died at the age of five months; Arthur, Lily, Erna, Nelda, Clarence, Elmer, Leona and Albert, and all of these are being well educated and trained to good citizenship. Mr. Frank is honest and upright in his dealings with his fellow men and is held in high esteem. He is a Republican, and inasmuch as he takes special interests in the cause of education, he has been a member of the local school board practically ever since living in this township.

JOSEPH FISH.

Joseph Fish was born near Syracuse, New York, September 23, 1850, the son of Jerome and Sarah Fish. His parents also were both natives of New York state, but in 1855 they moved to Wisconsin, where they bought land and farmed until the breaking out of the Civil War. In 1862 the father enlisted in the noted Second Regiment, Wisconsin Cavalry, and served until disabled by sickness, his condition being such that he was returned home, and did not return to the service. Following the close of the Civil War he had charge of a cooper-shop in River Falls, Wisconsin, for some years and, in 1870, came to Minnesota. In the spring of 1871 he settled on land in Becker county, Minnesota, where he died in June, 1872, not having filed claim on the land. His wife died before the Civil War. Their children were Joseph, Lucy, Harvey F., Harry, Maria and Arthur.

Joseph Fish received some education in Wisconsin, where, at the age of eleven years, he started in life for himself, working at such farm jobs as he could obtain until he entered the cooper-shop before mentioned. In

1881 he came to Minnesota and bought forty acres of timber land, where he has since resided. There were no buildings on the land he bought, and his entire capital was forty-three dollars, but he put on modern buildings and now owns a farm of eighty acres, which he uses for farming and stock raising, and always has a large amount of stock.

In 1878 Joseph Fish was married to Mrs. Jennie Sanders, who was a native of New York. They have one child living named Jessie, and a child, Walter A., who died in infancy. Mr. Fish has been chairman of the township board for the past two years, and had served a term of two years prior to the present one, and had been a member of the board several times previously.

The father of Mrs. Fish was a native of New York. His name was Avry Stanton Sanders. He had been in business in New York for many years, but on account of his wife's poor health he sold out and came west and bought a farm in Wisconsin; later both died. They had two children, Benjamin Franklin, born on January 3, 1848, and Jennie Almira, born on May 9, 1851.

JOSEPH B. HEMMELGARN.

Among the successful farmers of Pine Lake township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, is Joseph B. Hemmelgarn, who was born in Mercer county, Ohio, February 18, 1860, the son of Theodore and Mary (Luelsman) Hemmelgarn, both of whom were natives of Germany, in which country they spent their early years and then came to America with their parents. Theodore Hemmelgarn, in America, became a farmer and now lives on his farm in Mercer county, Ohio. Theodore and Mary Hemmelgarn were the parents of the following children: Theodore, Henry, Benjamin, Joseph, Elizabeth, Barney, John, Anton, William, Mary, Josephine and Thresa.

When twenty-four years of age Joseph B. Hemmelgarn came to the state of Minnesota and engaged generally in farm work about the town of Perham for five years, and then bought one hundred and sixty acres of land in Pine Lake township, where he now lives and engages in general agricultural pursuits. On taking possession of his farm Mr. Hemmelgarn cleared the land of timber, built substantial buildings and, as he prospered, added to his land until now he is the owner of two hundred and sixty acres of the desirable land in Pine Lake township.

During the year 1888, Joseph B. Hemmelgarn was married to Anna Wagner, who was born in Austria, the daughter of Anton Wagner and wife, who came to America in 1872 and located in Pine Lake township.

Otter Tail county, Minnesota, where they followed a general agricultural life. To the marriage of Joseph B. and Anna Hemmelgarn have been born four children, Clara, Rosa, Andrew Martin (deceased) and Martin. Mr. Hemmelgarn and his family are members of the Catholic church.

Joseph B. Hemmelgarn has taken a prominent place in the public life of the community, serving as a volunteer in all matters for general welfare.

GEORGE B. WYNN.

George B. Wynn was born at Rossville, twelve miles from Danville, Vermilion county, Illinois, on November 18, 1868. His father, James B. Wynn, came of a family of Irish descent and was born in Attica, Warren county, Indiana, and was married to Mary Davis whose family came from England, the marriage ceremony taking place in Illinois, where Mr. Wynn went as a young man. The young couple resided for eight years on their farm in Vermilion county and seized by the "wanderlust" spent the following two years in Texas, returning to the North in the winter of 1879-1880, when Mr. Wynn settled in Otter Tail county and brought his family there in February. This family consisted of his second wife and three children, the first wife having died in 1876, he was married, secondly, to Adell Shamp, who is still living.

In Otter Tail county James B. Wynn bought forty acres of what was then known as the Skinner land, in section 23, Woodside township, which is now called the Wagner farm. They set up housekeeping in a log cabin which he built (which was later destroyed) and began the task of clearing his newly acquired purchase. Here they lived until the fall of 1892, by which time they had acquired two hundred acres which Mr. Wynn sold in order to be free to move to Springdale, Arkansas, where he still lives on a farm at Winslow. He was a soldier in the Civil War, having enlisted in the One Hundred and Thirty-second Regiment, Indiana Volunteer Infantry, in which he served for three years. Both he and his wife are members of the Seventh-Day Adventist church, whose activities constitute one of the important phases of their present quiet life. Mr. Wynn is a member of the Grand Army of the Republic. Mr. Wynn had by his first wife four children, of whom George B., the subject of this sketch is the eldest. The others are, in the order of their birth: Thomas, who for some years has been an extensive traveler; William, a farmer living at Wrightstown; Manolia, the wife of Charles Michel, who lives in Ballaton, Minnesota. By his second marriage eleven children were born, these being Mary, Frank, Silas, who died at the age of eight; Rhoda, Joseph, deceased at the age of fifteen; Henry, a soldier of the regular army; Ruth, Martha, who died

young; Winnie, who died at the age of six months; Roy, who died when an infant of two days, and Nona.

The old log school house so well known in the previous generation furnished young George Wynn with the only education available at that time. He attended school at district No. 100 during the winter terms of three months and the rest of the year worked on the farm until he was twenty-two years of age. He then left home to become a farm laborer in Minnesota and Dakota. With the money he saved he was able to buy in 1888 or 1889, forty acres in the northwest quarter of the northeast quarter of section 27, in Woodside township, land that was then a wilderness. Out of this wilderness Mr. Wynn has made one of the finest farms in the township. Soon after his marriage, in 1893, he built a log house and there took his wife, continuing to live there until 1904. In 1896 he increased his holdings by eighty acres which he bought in section 27, this being unimproved railroad land. Having cultivated this tract he further enhanced its usefulness and attractiveness by building in 1905 a splendid frame house where he and his family have lived ever since. In the summer of 1915 he built a new barn thirty by fifty feet, having hip-roof and concrete foundation. Mr. Wynn is now farming one hundred and sixty acres, having in 1911 bought forty acres in the southeast quarter of the southwest quarter of section 26. He is a general farmer and stock raiser and has met with a marked degree of success.

Lucy E. Adams, a native of Richland Center, Wisconsin, became Mrs. George B. Wynn on the 28th of November, 1893. Her father, Thomas B. Adams, a carpenter, had enlisted in Company F, Sixteenth Regiment, Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, during the Civil War. His wife's parents had come to Crow Wing county before the war and there had married. They later went to Wisconsin. While Thomas Adams was serving his country a period of three years and three months, his wife took her two children from Crow Wing county, Minnesota, to Richland Center, Wisconsin, in order to receive from the government the support due her as a soldier's wife. There he returned after the war and resumed his trade, continuing to live there for forty or fifty years, until his death which occurred in 1899 or 1900. His wife passed away in 1894.

The mother of Mrs. Wynn was, before her marriage, Nancy J. McArthur and the history of her ancestors is of unusual interest. David McArthur, the father, was a native of Scotland and was the first of this family to locate in Crow Wing county. For many years he was post-master at White Earth Reservation. At that time Minnesota was full of Indians, but they were for the most part of a friendly nature. However, in an evil hour, one of his daughters named Ellen was captured and killed

by three Indians in 1872. In payment for this dastardly deed they were apprehended and hanged by the settlers on what was called "the lone pine tree" at Brainerd, Minnesota, and this tree is still standing there. The body of the girl was not found for three years when a traveler was passing by an Indian tepee and found the "brave" beating his squaw. He overheard the woman threaten to tell on her husband. This led to the apprehension of the murderers.

Mr. and Mrs. George B. Wynn became the parents of five children, namely: Thela J., Carrie Marie, who died in infancy; Menolia, Wilma and Jesse.

Mr. Wynn's service to the community has been of long duration, a certain test of efficiency and honesty. An assessor of this township for sixteen years and a member of the school board for twenty-one, he has paid the tribute of good citizenship to a commonwealth to whose material interests he has also contributed. Mr. Wynn is a member of the Wing River Telephone Company and of the Co-operative Creamery Company at Bertha. He belongs to the Modern Woodmen of America, and is an independent in politics. Mr. Wynn has those traits of character which make him a man whose influence is felt among his associates.

JOHN ERTZ.

John Ertz was born in Germany, November 16, 1869, the son of Valentine and Angeline (Kiewel) Ertz, both of whom were born, reared to manhood and womanhood and married in the Fatherland. Valentine Ertz was a farmer in his native land and followed his occupation there until 1880, when he emigrated to America with his family. After settling in Stearns county, Minnesota, he bought a farm of one hundred and sixty acres of partially improved land and lived upon that land for twenty years, when he moved to Cold Springs, where he and his beloved wife live retired at the present time. To this devoted couple were born seven children, as follow: Nick, a farmer living in Gary, Minnesota; John, the subject of this sketch; Katie, who married Frank Wiesener, and lives at Cold Spring, Minnesota; Joe, a laborer living in Bluffton township, Otter Tail county; George, a farmer living in North Dakota; Peter, a farmer living in Bluffton township, and Mary, who lives at home with her parents.

Reared and receiving his elementary education in Germany until ten years of age, John Ertz came to the United States and for some time pursued still further his education in the Minnesota public schools. Subsequently, he purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land in Todd county and there farmed for a short time, after which he bought land in Wadena county, where he farmed for a period of four years. In 1902 John Ertz

removed to Otter Tail county and purchased one hundred and sixty acres in section 5, of Bluffton township, where he has been actively engaged in farming ever since. At the time of his purchase of the farm in Bluffton township, only two acres of the land had been broken and a few dilapidated buildings were standing on the farm. Determined to improve his farm, he began to clear the land and to break the soil. In 1915 he built a substantial and modern house and barn, the latter being thirty-four by forty-four feet and equipped with hay fork and other modern improvements. Mr. Ertz has been deeply interested in live stock and is a breeder of Roan Durham cattle and Chester White hogs.

On February 15, 1898, John Ertz was united in marriage with Mary Laubach, a native of Spring Hill, Stearns county, and the daughter of Nick Laubach, an old settler who lived and died at Spring Hill. To this happy union there have been born thirteen children, of whom Nick, Clara, Katie, George and an infant are deceased. The living children are Annie, Louis, Marcus, William, Stephen, Helen, Rosa and Leona.

John Ertz, besides successfully operating his farm, has taken an active interest in the commercial and political activities of his township. As a Democrat he served for four terms as township supervisor. He is a shareholder in the Farmer's Co-operative Creamery Company of Bluffton.

OTTO B. JOHNSON.

Among those who from humble beginnings, have reached a place of distinction in the agricultural life of Otter Tail county, Minnesota, is Otto B. Johnson, who was born in Smoland, Sweden, on the 6th of November, 1865. He is the son of John and Eva (Olson) Johnson, natives of that country. Eva Olson was the daughter of Ole and Lena Olson, who were born in Sweden, where they spent the greater part of their lives, he working as a carpenter and a farmer and she assisting him in many ways. The father, Ole Olson, died when in the prime of life, but his wife lived to be ninety years old.

John and Eva Johnson, who were both born in the year 1819, spent their childhood days in Sweden, where they were later married. Mr. Johnson followed the occupation of a farmer. He came to America alone, in 1868, and upon arriving in this country went directly to St. Paul, Minnesota, where he was employed for three years on a railroad. At this form of work he was able to set aside a small amount of his earnings each month, and also to support the family in Sweden. His initial appearance in Otter Tail county was made in 1871 when he came to this community with the object in view of homesteading. He began his task of clearing the land

on one hundred and sixty acres located in section 2, in Erhards Grove township. The homestead claim was covered with timber and aside from the task of clearing the land, was the difficult one of hauling supplies from the nearest markets which were located at Fergus Falls and at Alexandria. Mr. Johnson built his log cabin on the site where the present Swedish Lutheran church stands.

In 1872 Mr. Johnson sent for his two eldest sons, who joined him on the homestead, and in 1875 Mrs. Johnson arrived in this country with the three smaller children. At the time of his death, which occurred in 1895, Mr. Johnson owned two hundred acres of land. He and his wife (who died in 1887), were members of the Swedish Lutheran church and contributed generously to the support of that organization. Mr. Johnson gave the land for the present church and for a number of years served the congregation as trustee. The following children were reared by John and Eva Johnson: Gustaf, who owns an adjoining farm; Carl F., who is a farmer in Pelican township; Olena, the wife of Peter Nygen, who lives in Nevada; Lottie, who married William Hubbard and who lives in the state of Washington, and Otto B., who is the subject of this sketch.

The educational training received by Otto B. Johnson covered a period of only seventy days. He received his training in farm management from his father during the time of clearing the homestead land. Previous to the death of his father he rented the home place and in 1893 bought the entire farm of two hundred acres. He has improved the farm since the time of the purchase. A large modern residence has been erected and a well-built barn put up. The management is devoted to general farming and stock raising.

Mr. Johnson has not allowed the interest of the farm to narrow his business activities. He was a director of the Lakeview Telephone Company and organized the Pelican Valley Shipping Association, of which he has been president for many years. Independent in his political interests Mr. Johnson has always been active for the cause of good government. He served nine years as supervisor in the township and the same number of years as school clerk.

In March, of 1893, Mr. Johnson married Emma Carlson, the daughter of Maria and Carl Carlson. Mr. Carlson never left his native land of Sweden to come to this country, but his wife and children, who came to this country, settled in Otter Tail county, near Pelican Rapids. Mrs. Johnson, who is a native of Umea, Sweden, is the mother of the following children: Victor, Victoria, Josephine, Joseph, who died at the age of ten; Otille, Emil and Gladys. All the children are living at home with their parents.

WILLIAM JANKE.

William Janke is one of six children born to David and Fredericka (Lipke) Janke and his birth occurred on April 14, 1864, in Pomern, Prussia. David and Fredericka (Lipke) Janke were also natives of Prussia and were married in that country. David Janke was occupied as a day laborer both in this native land and in America. He immigrated to America in 1885. His death occurred in 1889 in Waseca county, Minnesota. Fredericke (Lipke) Janke died in 1887. Both were devout members of the German Lutheran church and were the parents of the following children: August, Minna, Amelia, Charles, Christena and William. August is a retired farmer living in Waseca county, Minnesota; Minna is the wife of William Rotke and lives in Waseca county; Amelia married John Wardine and after his death, in Prussia, immigrated to America; Charles is a ship-builder and is engaged in that business in Charlottenburg; Christina became the wife of William Guelzow and they live in Otter Tail county.

William Janke received his education in the public schools of his native country and upon the completion of same engaged in farming, immigrating to America in 1884. After his arrival in the United States he was employed as a farm hand in Waseca county, Minnesota, for a period of three years. He then purchased eighty acres of land in Iosco township where he continued to cultivate the soil until 1905, at which time he removed to Otter Tail county and purchased four hundred and seventy acres of partially improved land. Desirous of making this farm one of the best in that section he erected new buildings, fences and other necessary improvements and until 1914 specialized in the breeding of Holstein cattle and Poland China hogs. In 1914 two hundred acres of this farm were sold but he still continues to cultivate the remaining two hundred and seventy acres. Besides the cattle and hogs which are sold yearly, William Janke retains a herd of twenty head of cattle and about thirty-five head of hogs.

In 1885 William Janke was united in wedlock to Augusta Block, daughter of Michael and Augusta Block, both natives of Posen, East Prussia. Augusta (Block) Janke is a native of Iosco, Minnesota, and by her union to William Janke has been the mother of six children: Ernest, Aaron, Lydia, Theodore, William and Emma. Ernest, Aaron and Lydia died when very young and Theodore, William and Emma reside under the parental roof. The parents of Augusta (Block) Janke were old settlers of Iosco township, Waseka county, Minnesota.

William Janke is much interested in all questions pertaining to the welfare and advancement of his community and has been actively engaged

in promoting many of the local enterprises. He is a stockholder in the creamery at Otter Tail and also a stockholder in the telephone company of that place. Politically, he is a staunch Republican and has served the educational interests of his township as school clerk. He also served as road overseer for a number of years. His religious inspiration is received through his attendance at the German Lutheran church, of which both he and his wife are active members. Not only has he mastered the language and customs of this country, but he has amassed a comfortable competency as well, and, withal, holds the respect and good will of his fellow citizens.

ANDREW A. WICKLUND.

A fine example of native shrewdness has been displayed in the life of Andrew A. Wicklund, in connection with the ownership of one hundred and sixty acres of land to which he now owns a clear title, and on which he has resided since 1882. Andrew A. Wicklund was born on December 8, 1875, in Sweden, and is the son of Andrew Johnson and Kigsa (Allison) Wicklund, both natives of Sweden. Andrew Johnson Wicklund immigrated to America in 1881 and secured one hundred sixty acres of land, under the homestead law, in Eagle Lake township, this county. He improved this land and put it under cultivation, in preparation for the residence of his family who followed him one year later. In 1882, Kigsa (Allison) Wicklund immigrated to America, accompanied by her three children, Magnus, Mathilda and Andrew A. Their eldest child, John, died in Sweden.

Andrew A. Wicklund assisted his father with the management and cultivation of the home place until his father's death, after which he assumed full charge and ownership. A dispute arose as to the validity of the claim and in order to make the title clear, Kigsa (Allison) Wicklund, mother of Andrew A. Wicklund, entered the homestead as her own, transferring it to her son at the proper time.

Andrew A. Wicklund was united in marriage to Christina Nelson, in 1904, and they are the parents of four children: Alice, Arthur, Myrtle and Wallace. Christina (Nelson) Wicklund is a native of Eagle Lake township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, and a daughter of Louis and Ingleborg (Olson) Nelson, natives of Sweden and Norway, respectively. Louis Nelson immigrated to America in 1875, locating in Iowa for a short time and later removing to Otter Tail county, where his marriage occurred. Ingleborg (Olsen) Nelson, immigrated to America in 1882. She was the daughter of Henry and Rangen (Harelsdatter) Olsen who immigrated to America in 1880, purchasing a homestead right in Eagle Lake township, this county. They cultivated this property until their death.

The father of Andrew A. Wicklund, Andrew Johnson Wicklund, is deceased, but his widow still lives and shares the home of her son. Andrew A. Wicklund and family are members of the Swedish Lutheran church and are actively engaged in the support of the same. For the past eleven years Andrew A. Wicklund has served as school director and was recently re-elected for another three-year term. This fact is surely the best recommendation for his sterling worth to the community and the respect and esteem in which he is held.

ERNST LUEBBERMANN.

Ernst Luebbermann, one of the well-known and highly-respected farmers and stock raisers, and a citizen who has been active in the political and official life of Dora township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, was born in Germany, October 30, 1845, a son of Everhardt and Sophia (Burer) Luebbermann, natives of Germany, in which country they lived their entire lives, the elder Luebbermann having been a successful farmer. Everhardt and Sophia Luebbermann were the parents of seven children.

Ernst Luebbermann received his education in the public schools of his native country and after the completion of his studies became a farmer working on the home place for some years. When twenty years of age, in 1865, he left the land where he had grown to maturity and came to America, locating in the state of Ohio where he made his home for about thirteen years. During the year 1878, Mr. Luebbermann moved to Minnesota and located in Dora township, this county, where he became one of the colony of homesteaders who were numerous in this locality at that time. Securing the rights to one hundred and sixty acres of uncleared and unimproved land, Ernst Luebbermann proceeded to improve his place and prepare the land for cultivation, from time to time adding more improvements and securing more acreage until now Mr. Luebbermann is the owner of two hundred and forty acres of the best improved and most highly cultivated land of the community. For many years Ernst Luebbermann has lived on his present farm, his success as a general farmer and as a stock raiser giving him a place of note among the leading agriculturists of Dora township and the vicinity.

During the year 1882, Ernst Luebbermann was married to Minnie Hoffmann, a native of Germany, and to this marriage have been born six children: Fred, Herman, Otto, Rudolph, Ernst and Tena. Mr. Luebbermann and his family are members of the German Lutheran church, the activity of Mr. Luebbermann and his wife in this congregation being well known in the community.

Ernst Luebberrmann has taken a prominent place in the official life of Dora township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, for about eight years having served as an active and influential member of the township board of supervisors.

As a citizen and as a leader in agricultural circles Mr. Luebberrmann has demonstrated his value to the community and he is a man who takes a place of honor and prominence in the various affairs of Dora township and of Otter Tail county.

PEDER P. HARRANG.

Near Underwood, Minnesota, in section 8, Sverdrup township, is the farm of one hundred and twenty acres belonging to Peder P. Harrang, an enterprising farmer of this township, who is a native of Norway, born in that country on April 6, 1860.

Mr. Harrang is a son of P. M. and Brit Harrang, both of whom were born in Norway, and who, after their marriage, came to America in 1880. They settled in Otter Tail county and homesteaded a farm in section 12, Sverdrup township, and both spent the remainder of their lives on this farm. They were the parents of five children, of whom Peder P. was the second in order of birth. The eldest child was Ole, who died in Norway at the age of twenty. Inga I is now Mrs. P. Sande. Inga II is the wife of William Stine, who is superintendent of the car service of the Missouri Pacific railroad at St. Louis, Missouri. John lives in Idaho, where he is running a general merchandise store.

Peder P. Harrang was educated in the public schools of his native land, and in 1881 emigrated to Otter Tail county, Minnesota, and for a time worked as a painter in Fergus Falls. In 1888, Mr. Harrang was married to Anna Sholberg, who is a native of Norway, born in 1866, the daughter of Martin and Mary Sholberg. Mrs. Harrang's parents came from Norway to the United States in the early seventies, and upon their arrival in this country worked at Porter's mill, near Eau Claire, Wisconsin. In 1875 the family came to Otter Tail county, Minnesota, and homesteaded eighty acres of land, to which they later added forty acres, and it is this farm which Mr. Harrang now owns. Mr. Harrang has made most of the improvements on this farm, and now lives in one of the most substantial farm houses in Sverdrup township. He also has a fine barn and other outbuildings necessary for the equipment of a well conducted farm.

Mr. Harrang and wife are the parents of eight children, as follow: Palmer, Monrad, Minda, Helen, Ida, Clara, Bertha and Agnes, all of whom are living.

Mr. Harrang is a stockholder in the Co-operative Creamery Company, of Underwood, Minnesota, and also in the co-operative store at that place.

Mr. and Mrs. Harrang and family are earnest and devout members of the Lutheran church. Mr. Harrang formerly served as a member of the town board of supervisors, and at one time was chairman of this board. He has worthily discharged all the duties, both private and public, which has fallen to him as a citizen of the republic.

OLE A. BERG.

Ole A. Berg is a native of Norway, born on September 5, 1860. Mr. Berg is a son of Arne Christensen Berg and Marie Olson Hol, both of whom were born, reared, married, and died in Norway.

Ole A. Berg, after emigrating from Norway to the United States in 1886 settled near Battle Lake, in Otter Tail county, Minnesota.

In 1890 Ole A. Berg was married to Carolina Vidness, who was born in Norway in 1875, and who is a daughter of Johannes Vidness and wife. Mrs. Berg's parents emigrated from their native land to America about 1880 locating near Battle Lake, Minnesota, where they still live.

In 1902 Mr. Berg purchased the farm in Sverdrup township where they now live.

Mr. and Mrs. Berg are the parents of ten children, as follow: Josephine, Mabel, Karen, Christian, Florence, Johannes, Arne (deceased), Arne, Else and Laura.

Mr. Berg and family are members of the Lutheran church.

CHARLES STENDER.

Charles Stender, one of the successful farmers and stock raisers, and a man who has taken an important part in the official life of Dora township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, was born in Germany, November 13, 1857, a son of John and Henrietta (Priebe) Stender, natives of Germany.

John Stender lived in his native land until 1866 when he came to America, with his family, and located in Carver county, Minnesota, where he made his home as a pioneer farmer for the remainder of his active life. The elder Stender and his wife were the parents of four children.

Charles Stender received his education in the common schools of Germany and then, with his parents, came to America and with them settled in Carver county, Minnesota, where Charles Stender engaged in farming and in the work of clearing the land of the community.

During the year 1889, when thirty-one years of age, Charles Stender moved to Otter Tail county, Minnesota, and located in Dora township,

where he purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land which he improved and supplied with the necessary equipment and where he has since lived as a general farmer and stock raiser, he now owning two hundred and fifty acres of land, his success in these lines being well known throughout the locality.

During the year 1877, Charles Stender was married to Maria Mielke and to this marriage have been born the following children: Louisa, Anna, Bertha, Ida, Otto, Emma, Martha, Bennie, Olga, Alma (deceased), Paul, Charles, Marie Erwin (deceased), Lottie and Henry (deceased). Mr. Stender and his family are active members of the German Lutheran church, Mr. and Mrs. Stender being affiliated with the South Dora church, in which congregation they are well known and highly respected workers.

Charles Stender has been active in the official life of Dora township for many years, during which time he has served as clerk of the township since first coming to the locality and for many years served as clerk of the Dora township school board. Politically, Mr. Stender is a Republican. As a citizen and as a friend Charles Stender holds the respect and esteem of all in his community and is one without whom Dora township would be less one of its progressive influences for the upbuilding of community life.

DANIEL W. HIXSON.

The Union soldier in the great war between the states builded wiser than he knew. Through four years of suffering and wasting hardships, through the horrors of prison pens and amid the shadows of death, he laid the foundation of the greatest temple ever erected and dedicated to human freedom. Today we call those soldiers sublime and in art and sculpture we have preserved their unselfish deeds. It remains, however, for the children of generations yet unborn to accord the full measure of appreciation for their immortal characters. Among the valiant veterans of the great Civil War now living in Otter Tail county, Minnesota, is Hon. Daniel W. Hixson, who enlisted as a soldier in the Union army before he was eighteen years old. Mr. Hixson has been repeatedly honored by the people of this state and has served nobly and efficiently in the Minnesota state Senate. He is the scion of a distinguished family, his grandfather having fought valiantly by the side of Washington in the Revolutionary War.

Daniel W. Hixson, a retired citizen of Fergus Falls, Minnesota, is a native of Burlington, Iowa, where he was born on December 23, 1843. He is the son of John and Mary (Burnett) Hixson and the grandson of David Hixson, a soldier in the Revolutionary War. John Hixson spent his early years in the mercantile business, but finally took up farming and in 1821



DANIEL W. HINSON



moved to Ohio, where he engaged in the milling business. In 1837 he took up land in Iowa and in 1843 moved to near Burlington, where he was a farmer the remainder of his life.

Daniel W. Hixson received his early education in the public schools of Burlington and vicinity and on August 4, 1862, enlisted from Kossuth, Iowa, in Company C, Thirtieth Regiment, Iowa Volunteer Infantry, which was attached to the Fifteenth Army Corps. Mr. Hixson was wounded in the siege of Vicksburg and was thereafter honorably discharged on account of wounds.

After his return home, Mr. Hixson finally engaged in farming and in the live stock business, shipping his stock to Chicago, Illinois. In 1883 Mr. Hixson moved to Grant county, Minnesota, where he purchased six hundred and forty acres of land. This large tract of land was located in Delaware township and there Mr. Hixson was engaged in farming on a large scale.

Three years after his removal to Grant county he was nominated for the Senate by the Republican party and, having been endorsed by the Farmers' Alliance, was triumphantly elected and served during the legislative sessions of 1887 and 1889. As a member of the Senate he had a conspicuous part in the framing and passage of important legislation and was considered, during the two sessions in which he served, as one of the leaders on the Republican side.

In 1899 Mr. Hixson purchased a farm near Fergus Falls, but never lived on it. His daughter being a student in the schools of Fergus Falls, Mr. Hixson finally purchased a home in the city, a house on Lincoln avenue, west, formerly owned by Doctor Cole. Here he has lived ever since.

By his marriage on March 7, 1866, to Helen Orr, a native of Ohio and a descendant on her paternal side from one of the most historic families of New England, there were born three children, Edwin S., Elma C. and Alice Capitola. Mrs. Hixson's father came originally from Goffstown, New Hampshire. Of the Hixson children, Edwin S., an only son, is a president of Blaine county, Montana, where he is engaged in farming and stock raising. He married Flora Goodell and has three children, Helen S., Ned B. and Charles D. Elma C. is a graduate of the University of Minnesota and is now the teacher of history in the Fergus Falls high school. She is the widow of the late Professor Benton, who was a well-known linguist of this state and who was an instructor in the University of Minnesota. Professor Benton died several years ago, leaving two children, William B. and Daniel H. Alice Capitola is a well-known musician of this section of Minnesota. She has so willingly contributed her services as a musician on so many occasions that there is perhaps no young woman in this section better known

than she. She married Jesse O. Billings, a native of Rutland, Vermont, and a man of sound business ability, who, before his untimely death in 1910, was engaged as an importer of purebred stock and who also owned a large ranch in North Dakota. His death was a severe shock not only to his wife, but to the Hixson family and to a host of friends. He left two children, Ida and Cecil.

Daniel W. Hixson has been prominent not only in the political and civic life of this state, but he is likewise well known in fraternal circles, being a Mason. He is a member of the Knights Templar and also of the Chippewa Club.

OLE NYGAARD.

Ole Nygaard, a prosperous farmer of Sverdrup township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, is a native of Norway, where he was born on March 27, 1849.

Mr. Nygaard is the son of Ole G. and Ingebor (Aune) Nygaard, both of whom were born in Norway and who, about 1882, immigrated to America and settled in Otter Tail county, Minnesota. Mr. Nygaard's father died in 1901 at the age of eighty-three years, and his mother in 1907 at the age of ninety-four. They were the parents of eleven children.

Ole Nygaard was educated in the public schools of Norway and in 1870 came to America, settling at St. Peter, Minnesota. Later he moved to Mankato, Minnesota, in September, 1870, and the following winter moved to St. Paul. In 1872 he came to Otter Tail county and took a homestead of one hundred and thirty-one acres of land, which he has cleared and improved. He is a general farmer and stock raiser and has been successful in this county.

On January 10, 1882, Ole Nygaard was married to Gertrude Sande, who was born on February 17, 1862, in Norway, and who is the daughter of Ole and Betsy Sande. They came to Otter Tail county, Minnesota, in 1882. Mrs. Nygaard's father died here in 1905 and her mother in 1892.

Mr. and Mrs. Ole Nygaard have been the parents of eleven children, of whom Inga is the wife of Thomas Petersen and has four children, Susie, Olive, Clifford and Raymond; Berntene is the wife of Hans Mortonson and has one daughter, Irene; Odin, lives at home; Lena is the wife of Edwin Gilbertson and has three children, George, Robert and Melvin; Johanna is the wife of Clayton Seffins and has two children, Leona and Beatrice; Alfred, Daniel, Henry, Ingvald, Mary and Clarence are all at home.

Ole Nygaard started life in this country with forty dollars and he is now a well-to-do farmer. A wonderful change has taken place in this

county since Mr. Nygaard moved here, and Fergus Falls, the county seat, is a vastly different city in appearance from what it was thirty-five years ago, when there were only two or three stores in the town.

Although Mr. Nygaard is nominally identified with the Republican party, he takes no interest in political affairs.

GILBERT L. ANTONSEN.

Gilbert L. Antonsen, well-known farmer of Edna township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, was born in LeSueur county, Minnesota, July 14, 1877, the son of Christian and Henrietta E. (Wassman) Antonsen, the former born in Denmark, the latter born in New York state. Christian Antonsen was the son of Peter and Sarah Antonsen, natives of Denmark.

Christian Antonsen came to America about 1859 and located in LeSueur county, Minnesota, where he secured one hundred and eighty acres of land and engaged in farm life for the remainder of his days. Christian and Henrietta Antonsen were the parents of nine children: Henry, Allen, Walter, Fred, John, Elick, Otis, Gilbert and Sarah.

Gilbert L. Antonsen received his education in the common schools of LeSueur county, after which he became a farmer, working generally on the farms of his native county for two years. He came to Otter Tail county in 1899 and bought one hundred and twenty acres of land in Edna township, at the same time dealing to a small extent as a land agent, in partnership with his brother, Otis. As a farmer, Gilbert L. Antonsen has been thoroughly successful, having improved his land, equipped his farm with approved machinery and now engages in general farming on two hundred and ten acres of highly productive soil. In addition to his general farm activity, Mr. Antonsen operates a threshing outfit throughout the township and vicinity.

OLE ANDERSON

Born in Norway, May 22, 1875, Ole Anderson, a prosperous farmer of Everts township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, is a son of Andreas and Maren Anderson, who were both born in Norway. Mr. Anderson's father was born in 1846, and after the death of his wife in her native land, came with his children to Otter Tail county, Minnesota, in 1892. Here he purchased eighty acres of land located in section 14, of Everts township, and on this farm Andreas Anderson has resided most of the time since coming to the county. Of his three children, Anna and Ole are living, while an infant is deceased. Andreas Anderson is a member of the Lutheran church, in whose welfare he is deeply interested.

Ole Anderson was educated in the public schools of his native land, and when seventeen years of age came to Everts township with his father. He now owns one hundred and fifty-nine acres of land in sections 13 and 14, and not only operates this farm, but also eighty acres belonging to his father.

Mr. Anderson lives with his father, who has been married since coming to America, to Olene Broteng who is the mother of two children by her first husband. Ole Anderson's sister, Anna, is the wife of Ole Widnes, of Battle Lake, Minnesota, and they are the parents of six children, Marvin, Dora, Hilda, Ruth, Imer and Roy.

Ole Anderson is a devout member of the Lutheran church, in which he takes an active interest, and to the support of which he is a liberal contributor.

WALTER C. ANTONSEN.

Walter C. Antonsen, successful farmer and well-known citizen of Edna township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, was born in LeSueur county, Minnesota, May 16, 1865, a son of Christian and Henrietta E. (Wassman) Antonsen, the father a native of Denmark, and the mother a native of New York state. Christian Antonsen was the son of Peter and Sarah Antonsen, natives of Denmark.

About 1859 Christian Antonsen came to America and settled in LeSueur county, Minnesota, where he took up the duties of farm life. As a farmer, Christian Antonsen was notably successful, he having acquired one hundred and eighty acres of land, all of which he cultivated in his able manner, for the remainder of his days.

Christian and Henrietta Antonsen were the parents of nine children: Henry, Allen, Walter, Fred, John, Elick, Otis, Gilbert and Sarah, all of whom are now living. The elder Antonsen and his wife were members of the Methodist church.

Walter C. Antonsen received his education in the public schools of LeSueur county, Minnesota, after which he became a farmer, working on the home farm for his father. During the year 1887, Walter C. Antonsen came to Otter Tail county, and located in Edna township, where he purchased a farm of eighty acres, which he improved and to which he added land until now he is the owner and successful cultivator of two hundred and forty acres. In addition to his general farming, Mr. Antonsen engages in the raising of considerable live stock.

During the year 1890, Walter C. Antonsen was married to Sophia Sunderman, and to this marriage has been born one child, Pearl, who was born in June, 1903. Mr. Antonsen and his family are active members of

the Methodist Episcopal church, in Edna township, they being highly respected people of this church. Politically, Walter C. Antonsen is an ardent Republican.

HENRY ANTONSEN.

Among the men of Hobart township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, who not only take a leading place among the farmers and stock raisers of the community, but who also are active and influential in the business and official circles, is Henry Antonsen, who was born in LeSueur county, Minnesota, March 27, 1861, a son of Christian and Henrietta E. (Wassman) Antonsen, the former of whom was born in Denmark, and the latter, in New York state. Christian Antonsen was the son of Peter and Sarah Antonsen, natives of Denmark.

Christian Antonsen came to America about 1859, and located in LeSueur county, Minnesota, where he secured one hundred and eighty acres of land and engaged in farm life for the remainder of his days. Christian and Henrietta Antonsen were the parents of nine children: Henry, Allen, Walter, Fred, John, Elick, Otis, Gilbert and Sarah.

Henry Antonsen received his education in the common schools of LeSueur county, Minnesota, and after his school days became a farmer, working on the farms of his native community. When twenty-two years of age, in 1883, Mr. Antonsen moved to Otter Tail county, Minnesota, and located in Hobart township, where he purchased eighty acres of uncleared and unimproved land. On taking possession of his land, Henry Antonsen built the necessary buildings, supplied his farm with the proper equipment and fourteen years later, in 1898, having prospered as a farmer, he added eighty acres of land to his original farm, all of which has since been highly improved and now is in a thorough state of scientific cultivation. On his excellent farm Henry Antonsen now is engaged in general farming, together with the specializing in the raising of purebred Poland-China hogs and of Red Polled cattle, the product of this progressive farmer in this line being of the choicest to be found in the community.

Henry Antonsen, in addition to his success as a farmer and stock raiser is well known and prominently connected with the business activities of the township, he now serving in the capacity as secretary of the Vergas Co-operative Creamery Company.

During the year 1887, Henry Antonsen was married to Sarah L. Pengra, a daughter of Rush Pengra and wife, and to this marriage have been born eight children: William H., John H., Charles H., Frank H., Sarah H., Mary H., Margaret H. and Elnora H.

In the political and official life of this community, Henry Antonsen has been active and useful to the township and vicinity, for many years having served as township treasurer, as school clerk for several terms and in all the other township offices with the exception of supervisor. Mr. Antonsen has demonstrated his efficiency and value as a public official. Henry Antonsen is an independent voter.

OLE PEDERSON.

Ole Pederson, although a resident of Otter Tail county, Minnesota, for over forty years, is not a native, having been born in Trondhjem, Norway, on March 5, 1849. His father, Peder Iversen Leraad, followed farming for years in his native land. Ole Pederson is the sixth son of a family of eight boys born to Peder Iversen Leraad and Kari Esmor, both of whom were born in Norway. The father was born in 1805, and died in 1863. The mother was born in 1813, and died in 1898. The couple reared an interesting family: Iver, the eldest son, died at the old home place in Norway; the second son, also called Iver, now lives in Norway, where he is a farmer; the next three sons, in the line of birth, died when they were small; Ole was the sixth son; the two boys who were born last in line, died when they were young.

The rudimentary branches of education were received by Ole Pederson in the public schools of Norway. In 1870 he came to America, where he landed alone and practically without friends. His first choice of residence was in Dodge county, Wisconsin, where he worked on the farms in that locality. In the fall of 1871 he came to Otter Tail county. The trip as far as Breckenridge was made by rail, and the remaining miles were covered on foot. Upon his arrival in the county where he now lives he settled in Oscar township, where he took up the task of homesteading one hundred and sixty acres of land, located in sections 2 and 3. The section of the township in which he settled was an uncultivated tract of prairie land and the first few years, during which the breaking of the soil was the principal occupation, were studded with events of adversity and danger. It was in the time of the greatest trials that Ole Pederson showed his highest traits of character. He grappled with primeval conditions with fearlessness, and the prosperity enjoyed by him today is a direct consequence of his early endeavors. In 1881 he bought one hundred and sixty acres of land in sections 28 and 29, Trondhjem township, and took up his residence in that part of the county. He sold the old homestead upon which, in the earlier days, a log cabin had been erected by him, and purchased eighty acres of land adjoining his new residence. Upon the farm where he now lives, Mr. Pederson follows

the occupation of general farming. He believes thoroughly in modern improvements and his farm land gives evidence of this fact. The buildings are large and attractive and the fences exhibit capable farm management. Mr. Pederson has not been content with having the farm interests engage his attention, but has given both time and study to other lines of business enterprise. He was director of the creamery, formerly located in Trondhjem township, and is at the present time director of the Oscar Farmers Mutual Insurance Company. In politics, he has always taken more than the usual interest. In the beginning of his political career, Mr. Pederson followed the cause of the Populist party, but later turned to the principles of the Republican party. He now serves as treasurer of the township and treasurer of the school board.

In 1874 Ole Pederson was united in marriage to Kari Wee, also a native of Norway, who was born in that country in 1850. She is the daughter of Erick Olsen Wee and his wife Margaret, who are numbered among the oldest settlers of Trondhjem township, having been residents of that section of Otter Tail county since 1872. To the union of Mr. and Mrs. Pederson the following children have been born: Caroline, who married Harman Rud, and who is now living in Rothsay, Minnesota; Eric, who lives on a farm in North Dakota; Petrina, the wife of Ole Tetrud, is now living in Rothsay, Minnesota; Ida, who married Iver Nelson, resides in Rothsay; Peter, who lives on the old home place; August, who died in his thirty-second year; Petrina, who died when two years old, and the youngest son, Oscar, died at the age of six months. Mr. and Mrs. Pederson are both devout members of the Lutheran Synod church and contribute generously to every cause for its welfare.

ALFRED P. RESTAD.

Alfred P. Restad, a prosperous and successful young farmer of Otter Tail county, was born at Calmar, Iowa, January 31, 1872, and is the son of Peder and Cecelia (Dahl) Restad, both of whom were natives of Norway, the father having been born in 1836 and the mother in 1825. They came to the United States before their marriage and located in Iowa, where they were married some time later. In 1874 they came to Otter Tail county, where they entered land in section 30, Scambler township. The first farm consisted of one hundred and sixty acres, which was cleared and improved by Mr. Restad, after which forty acres was added to the original place. The father and mother, the latter of whom is near ninety years old, make their home with their son and his family.

Alfred P. Restad received his education in the common schools of the

county, where he has resided most of his life. Having been reared on the farm his inclination for agricultural pursuits was developed at an early age. Mr. Restad, being the only child, has for the most part of his life worked on the old homestead, which he has assisted in developing and cultivating. He also owns forty acres, which is all timber. He has erected a beautiful brick residence. In 1914 he remodeled the barn, which is a structure forty-six by sixty-six feet.

Mr. Restad is a most excellent farmer and a successful breeder of Shorthorn cattle, his stock being of the best. He has been a member of the board of supervisors and at one time was the chairman. He is at present clerk of the school board.

In 1896 Alfred P. Restad was married to Hilda Krogstad, who was born in Otter Tail county in 1879, the daughter of John and Petra Krogstad, both of whom were natives of Norway. They came to Otter Tail county in an early day and now live retired at Pelican Rapids.

Mr. and Mrs. Restad are the parents of the following children: Cecelia, Alvida, Lottie, Maurice, Norman, Joel and Edna, all of whom are living.

CLINTON R. STINAR.

Clinton R. Stinar, prominent real-estate dealer of New York Mills, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, was born in Delaware county, Ohio, February 20, 1864, the son of Abraham and Julia Anne (Luke) Stinar, the former born on June 4, 1828, in Marion county, Pennsylvania, and the latter, January 7, 1838, in the same county. Abraham Stinar was educated in the schools of Marion county, Pennsylvania, after which he went to Delaware county, Ohio, where he farmed for a time and then moved to Hardin county, Iowa. Later, on June 4, 1876, Abraham Stinar came to Compton township, this county, and homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of land in section 6, where he lived as a farmer for twelve years and then moved to Bluffton, Minnesota, living a retired life until his death in 1900. Julia Anne, the wife of Abraham Stinar, preceded her husband in death by only three weeks. Abraham and Julia Anne Stinar were the parents of the following children: Lawrence, Mary, Tellie, Flora, Lowell, Clinton, Nellie (deceased), Mand and Al.

Clinton R. Stinar received his education in the schools of Alden, Hardin county, Iowa, and then moved to Compton township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, where he worked on the railroad which at that time was being constructed through Deer Creek township, after which he was transferred to Fergus Falls, where he had charge of the railway yards and also had the care of the line to Elizabeth. After five years in the railroad business,

Clinton R. Stinar took up farming and in 1893, bought a farm of one hundred and sixty acres in section 12, Newton township, which he improved extensively and to which farm he later added forty acres.

During the year 1911, Clinton R. Stinar came to New York Mills and in the spring of the year 1912 established himself in the real-estate business, a business in which he has successfully engaged since that time. Clinton R. Stinar is the owner of three properties in New York Mills and is a man who is conceded to be an authority on matters of real-estate value and dealings.

During the year 1885, Clinton R. Stinar was married to Marrion Jane Bain, who was born in London, England, on January 7, 1866, the daughter of James and Jane (Robbins) Bain, the former born near Edinburgh, Scotland, in the year 1828, and the latter born in London, in 1830. To the marriage of Clinton and Marrion Stinar have been born the following children: Christina Grace, Osay, Ennon, Thora, James, and Lemuel and Sarah, twins.

James Bain came to America in 1871 and located at Duluth, Minnesota, where he lived for some time and then moved to Brainerd, Minnesota. About the year 1878 he came to Bluffton township, this county, and homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of land in section 6, where he lived thirty years and then moved to Seattle, Washington, where he lived ten years and died on August 12, 1915.

JOHN MATTFELD.

Among the successful farmers and prominent men in Gorman township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, is John Mattfeld, who was born in Gorman township, January 26, 1880, the son of Henry and Anna (Aldrich) Mattfeld, natives of Hanover, Germany. Henry Mattfeld was the son of Herman Mattfeld, a farmer and landowner of Germany, in which country he lived his entire life.

Henry Mattfeld came to America in 1879, and located in Otter Tail county, Minnesota, where he joined a brother, Fred, who had come to America ten years earlier, and was established as a farmer. Later, Henry Mattfeld bought one hundred and seventy acres of land in section 5, Gorman township, on which he erected substantial buildings, and on which he lived as a general farmer until 1884. Disposing of his land in section 5, Gorman township, Henry Mattfeld bought two hundred and forty acres of land in sections 16, of Gorman township. On this farm Henry Mattfeld lived until 1905, when he bought eighty acres of land in Becker county, Minnesota, a place which he cultivated until 1913, when he retired and moved to Frazee, Minnesota, where he spent his last days. Henry and

Anna Mattfeld were the parents of fourteen children: Mary, Mate, Anna, John, Minnie, Emma, Frederick, Herman, Henry, William, Richard, August, Cecelia and Edward, all of whom are living.

John Mattfeld received his education in the common schools of Gorman township, after which he became a farmer and in 1907 came to the farm in Gorman township, where he now lives and engages in general agricultural pursuits. In addition to his regular farm activity Mr. Mattfeld conducts a dairy and is a breeder of good grade Holstein cattle and Yorkshire hogs.

On November 20, 1906, John Mattfeld was married to Anna Johnson, who was born in Gorman township, this county, the daughter of P. R. Johnson and wife, early settlers of Otter Tail county. To this marriage no children have been born. John Mattfeld and his wife are members of the German Lutheran church, of Perham.

John Mattfeld is prominent in business circles of Gorman township, being a stockholder and secretary of the Farmer's Store Company, at Perham, a stockholder of the Luce Creamery Company, and he is secretary and treasurer of the Farmer's Shipping Association of Perham, with which Mr. Mattfeld has been affiliated since the organization of the association.

As a public official, John Mattfeld has served as township assessor for four years, as clerk of the school board for nine years and as school treasurer, an office which he has occupied for three years.

RAY PHELPS.

Ray Phelps, one of the prosperous and successful farmers and business men of Otter Tail county, was born in that county on February 23, 1881, the son of O. C. and Margaret (Gould) Phelps, both of whom were natives of New York, where they grew to manhood and womanhood and were married, after which they moved to Blue Earth county. Here he was a successful farmer and a large landowner. In 1880 he sold his land there and came to Otter Tail county, where he took up a homestead of eighty acres and at the same time purchased eighty acres in section 8, Maine township. Here he still makes his home, his wife having died on December 22, 1913. They were the parents of eight children: Nona (deceased), Hulcy, Catherine, Guy, Mary, Fred, Margaret and Ray, all of whom are married with the exception of Margaret.

Ray Phelps was married on May 13, 1907, to Luella Welchle who is a native of LeSueur county. They are the parents of one child, Deggle. Mr. Phelps was educated in the common schools of his county and remained on the home farm until 1904, when he began working for W. E. Thomas, at Phelps Station, and is now the miller there.

Mr. Phelps is the owner of two hundred and twenty acres of land in Maine township, which is well improved and developed. The farm is rented and he and his family make their home in Phelps Station, which was named for the family and at one time the postoffice was located there, but since the establishment of the free rural delivery it has been abolished.

Mr. Phelps and his family are active members of the Presbyterian church and take great interest in all church work. They are interested in the social and business life of the town and devote much time and attention to all things that tend to the betterment of the community.

JOHN HANSON.

John Hanson, of Leaf Lake township, this county, who was born in Sweden on December 18, 1854, but who has lived in America since he was sixteen years old, owns five hundred and fifty acres of land all in one body and practically all of which was wild land when he purchased it.

Mr. Hanson is the son of Hans Johnson and Marna Olson, who were also natives of Sweden. His paternal grandfather was Ole Hanson, a native of Sweden and a fisherman by occupation.

Mr. Hanson's father, Hans Johnson, came to America in 1871, bringing his family with him to the new country. After a short stay in the state of Maine, the family moved to Meeker county, Minnesota, where they purchased eighty acres of land. From 1871 to 1890, the family lived in Meeker county and there the mother died and the father went to Sweden for a visit. Upon his return to Minnesota he settled in Otter Tail county. Hans Johnson lived with his son, John Hanson, until his death, about 1895. He was a farmer all of his life and a devout member of the Lutheran church. His wife died about 1890. They had only two children who grew to maturity: Helen, who is now deceased, and John, the subject of this sketch.

After receiving a meager education in the public schools of his native land, John Hanson, at the age of sixteen years, came to America with his parents. He settled with them in Meeker county, Minnesota, but moved to a homestead in section 6, Leaf Lake township and lived there five years. This tract he sold later on. Mr. Hanson first purchased forty acres, in 1888, in section 25, of Leaf Lake township, but has added to the original farm until he now owns five hundred and fifty-one acres of land. In 1912 his house burned and a little later in the same year the house was rebuilt. In 1897 Mr. Hanson built a commodious barn. He raises a great many Durham cattle and red Duroc-Jersey hogs and keeps altogether about one hundred head. For twenty years, Mr. Hanson has been engaged in the live-stock shipping business. He has shipped to all of the nearby markets,

including St. Paul and Chicago. For twelve years Mr. Hanson was in the grain business at Henning and, during five years of the time, operated the farmers' elevator at Henning, which he leased.

In July, 1882, John Hanson was married to Mattie Olson, who was born in Norway, and to them have been born ten children: Helen, Minnie, Tena, Alice, Henry, William, John, Mable, Lillian and Orvy. Three of these children died young.

Although not a member of the Lutheran church, Mr. Hanson has always been a warm and ardent supporter of this denomination and contributes liberally to its support locally. Before moving to Henning, Minnesota, he served as chairman of the township for two years and also served as supervisor of the township for three years.

THOMAS STRAND.

Thomas Strand, who is a prosperous farmer of Inman township, this county, is a native of Olmsted county, Minnesota, born there on August 25, 1865.

Mr. Strand is the son of Thomas O. and Betsey (Ashland) Strand, both of whom were natives of Norway. Mr. Strand's father was born in Norway in 1824 and his mother in the same country in 1829. In 1860 they immigrated to America and settled in the state of Illinois. Five years later they moved to Olmsted county, Minnesota, and, after living in Olmsted county for about three years, in 1868, moved to Freeborn county and purchased one hundred and twenty acres of land, where they lived until 1882. The family then moved to South Dakota, where Mr. Strand's father died in 1889. His mother is still living and resides at Howard, South Dakota, with a daughter, Mrs. Jens Jensen.

Mr. Strand's parents, Thomas O. and Betsey (Ashland) Strand, had a family of eight children, two of whom died in infancy. The six living children are: Ole, who lives with Thomas, the subject of this sketch; John, who is an abstractor at Howard, South Dakota; Knute, who is an abstractor at Clark, South Dakota; Thomas, who is the subject of this sketch; Ingeborg, who is now Mrs. Jens Jensen, of Howard; Anna, who is now Mrs. George Jensen, of Howard. Ingeborg and Anna married brothers, who operate a general store at Howard, South Dakota, under the name of Jensen Brothers.

Thomas Strand was reared on a farm and was educated principally in Freeborn county, Minnesota. He also attended school for some time in South Dakota. At one time he owned land in South Dakota and, in partnership with his brothers, Ole and John, operated a general store at Carthage, South Dakota. His land holdings in South Dakota amounted, at one time,

to three hundred and twenty acres. In 1911 Mr. Strand came to Otter Tail county, Minnesota, and purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land in section 27, of Inman township. He is a general farmer and stockman.

In 1902 Thomas Strand was married in South Dakota to Jennie Gutterson, who was born in Iowa and who is the daughter of Ole Gutterson, a soldier in the Civil War, who now lives at Carthage, South Dakota. Mr. Gutterson came to the United States from Norway in 1857. He was born in 1841 and his wife, Betsey Gutterson, was born in 1844. Both are now living and have been married forty-nine years.

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Strand have three children, Thalma, Bernice and Edward, all of whom are living at home with their parents on the Inman township farm.

SAMUEL N. BROOKS.

Samuel N. Brooks, well-known and successful salesman of Richville, this county, was born at Oshkosh, Wisconsin, August 22, 1868, the son of Gilbert and Frances (Adsit) Brooks, both of whom were natives of New York state, the former born on February 22, 1822, and the latter in the year 1829. About the year 1856, Gilbert Brooks and his family moved to Neenah, Wisconsin, and later to Oshkosh, and then to the state of North Dakota, after which they made their home with their son, Andrew C. Frances, the wife of Gilbert Brooks, died in the year 1907. Gilbert Brooks for more than thirty years was a lumberman by occupation, a line of work which he followed until the time of his retirement. Gilbert and Frances Brooks were the parents of eight children: William, Evelyn (deceased), Mattie, Nellie, Jennie, Andrew C., Samuel N. and Mary.

Samuel N. Brooks was educated in the public schools of Oshkosh, Wisconsin, after which, in the year 1886, he went to the state of North Dakota and six years later homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of land and also took up a "tree claim" of one hundred and sixty acres. Until the year 1904, Mr. Brooks lived on his land in North Dakota and then he came to Richville, where he engaged in the mercantile business, as a member of the firm of Prentice & Brooks, for about four years. Afterward, Samuel N. Brooks traded one hundred and sixty acres of his land in Rush Lake township for land in North Dakota, which land he rents, and now Mr. Brooks has a farm in North Dakota and a home in Richville, where he lives as the representative of the Rose Hill Nursery Company, of Minneapolis, Minnesota.

During the year 1890 Samuel N. Brooks was married to Deborah Prentice, who was born at Toronto, Canada, in 1871, the daughter of Adam

F. and Sarah (Birch) Prentice, both of whom were natives of Canada. Adam F. Prentice died in the state of North Dakota, where he went from Canada, his death occurring in the year 1905. His widow, Sarah, died on February 10, 1915. Samuel N. and Deborah Brooks are the parents of the following children: Maud, who was educated at Northwestern College, of Fergus Falls, and who is now the wife of Elmer Christensen, butter manufacturer of Stewartville, Minnesota; Vernon, who was educated at Park Region Lutheran College, now assistant butter maker of Stewartville, Minnesota; Gilbert, educated at Perham high school, and who is now assistant cashier of the Farmers State Bank, of Richville, Minnesota.

JULIUS E. SCHWANTZ.

Julius E. Schwantz, a general farmer and stock raiser, came from Germany, having been born there on March 22, 1855, his parents being Charles and Caroline (Schwantz) Schwantz.

Mr. and Mrs. Schwantz were born, grew up and married in Germany, where Charles was a successful farmer and landowner, until his emigration to America, in 1855 or 1856. He came directly to Wisconsin, where he bought a farm near Portage City, the land having thirteen acres already cultivated, and on which was a log house. Both the land and the buildings were improved by Mr. Schwantz, who with his family lived there until 1900. He then sold out and went to live near Barabee, Wisconsin, living a retired life at the home of his son. He died in 1912, at the age of eighty-two years and nine months, his wife having passed away two years previously, aged seventy-nine years. Both were members of the Lutheran church. Their four children are: Charles, a farmer of Effington township; Julius E., the subject of this sketch; Albert, who died in 1895, and William, a resident of Sac county, Wisconsin.

Julius E. Schwantz attended school in a log school house, in what was known as Dog Hollow, near Portage City, Wisconsin. He was brought up on his father's farm, where he learned the secrets of agriculture. By the year 1870 he had saved up sufficient means to buy eighty acres in this county, the land being located in section 9, Woodside township; about twelve acres of this farm had been broken. The log buildings on the place were soon supplanted by modern buildings, and so successful was their owner, that by the year 1900 he added to his holdings by the purchase of one hundred and sixty acres, located across the road in the northwest quarter of section 10. This property had been improved by an old settler of Wisconsin. The new owner removed the log structures which he found and converted the entire land into a place for general farming and stock

raising. The subsequent years of Mr. Schwantz's activities have been eminently successful.

The ceremony which united in marriage Mr. Schwantz and Rose Jacobson, a native of Boskebel, Wisconsin, took place in 1881. A large and interesting family was born to Mr. and Mrs. Schwantz, as follow: Nettie, a former school teacher, is living on a claim in Montana; Edward, a farmer, lives in Big Sandy, Montana; Ida is Mrs. Herbert South, a resident of North Dakota; Bert, when last heard from, was a resident of Detroit, Minnesota; Mabel is Mrs. Arthur Hendershot, of Woodside township; Charles resides at Peach, North Dakota; Carrie and Willie reside at home. The others are Roy and Frank.

Mr. Schwantz, besides his other activities, was secretary of the Wrightstown Telephone Company in 1914, and is now president of the company. For twenty-five years Mr. Schwantz has felt a keen personal interest in the education of the boys and girls of Parkers Prairie and, in fact, of the whole township. Much of the present high standing of the schools of this township is due to his foresight and conscientious effort. He was for twenty-five years school director in Woodside township. Other public offices held by him were constable and assessor of Effington township, a position which he held for two years. Mr. Schwantz has made his life eminently useful, and has been of distinct service in his own corner of the earth. His many friendships, as well as those of his capable wife, are evidence of his success in making his influence for good felt.

OLAF RONNINGEN.

Olaf Ronningen was born on January 29, 1873, in Michigan, and is the son of Ole S. and Margaret (Andrew) Ronningen, both natives of Norway. Ole S. Ronningen was a carpenter and mason by trade, and followed this vocation previous to his emigration to America. His marriage was solemnized while he was still a resident of Norway and he and his wife emigrated to the United States in 1875, making a temporary sojourn in Michigan, and thence removing to Eagle Lake township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota. Here they secured eighty acres of land, under the homestead law, on which they continued to reside for a period of twenty years. Disposing of this property, they purchased a farm of one hundred and twenty acres in St. Olaf township, this county, where Ole S. Ronningen engaged in general farming and also followed his trade as carpenter and mason. Margaret (Andrew) Ronningen died in 1883, and, some time later, her husband married Saave Langlee. Eight children were born to the first union of Ole S. Ronningen, and their names are: Olaf, Mary, Ole, Gustav (deceased), Andrew, Anna, Olaf (deceased), and Gena (deceased). Ole

S. Rommingen was a member of the Norwegian Lutheran church, located at Ashby. His death occurred in the spring of 1897.

Olaf Rommingen received his education in the common schools of Olaf township, this county, and, as a young man, was employed as a farm hand near his home. For the past nine years he has cultivated the home place on an independent basis, and is engaged in general farming and stock raising. He has made many improvements and is interested in developing the farm to the fullest extent. He is a member of the Norwegian Lutheran church, and is an independent voter. He resides on the home place, which is shared by his stepmother, Saave (Langlee) Rommingen.

J. A. FREEBORN, PH. G., M. D.

Among the medical and surgical specialists of the state of Minnesota, who rank high with the public and especially in the medical profession, is Dr. J. A. Freeborn, of Fergus Falls, who is well and favorably known throughout the Northwest as an eye and ear specialist.

J. A. Freeborn was born in 1864 in Waterloo county, Canada. His father was of Scotch-Irish descent and the greater part of his life was devoted to farming. Doctor Freeborn's mother was also of Scotch descent, her name having been Mary Scott.

The fourth child of a large family, J. A. Freeborn was reared on the farm and educated in the country schools and at the Stratford high school, from which he was graduated in 1881. Afterwards he entered a drug store at Stratford as a clerk and later accepted a like position in London, Canada. In 1884 he removed to Big Stone City, South Dakota, where he opened a drug store on his own account and where he continued in business for two years.

In the fall of 1886 Doctor Freeborn entered the Rush Medical College, at Chicago, from which he was graduated in 1889. The same year he began the practice of medicine at Ortonville, Minnesota, where he practiced until the fall of 1891. He then entered Bellevue hospital and the Medical College of New York City and received his degree from that institution in 1892. Upon his return to Ortonville, he practiced medicine until 1896, when he came to Fergus Falls, where he has since practiced his profession with eminent success. While studying medicine in Chicago and New York, Doctor Freeborn specialized in diseases of the eye, ear, nose and throat, and further specialized along this line as well as in X-Ray work while in Europe, during the winter of 1911-12.

In 1891 Doctor Freeborn was married to Lillian Anderson, a native of Rochester, Minnesota, and the daughter of Dr. O. W. Anderson, of that city. Mr. Freeborn was a graduate of the Rochester high school and of the



J. A. FREEBORN, PH. G., M. D.

Winona Normal School. She taught school in Ortonville before her marriage. Mrs. Freeborn died at her home in Fergus Falls, Minnesota, March 8, 1915, leaving three daughters, Gertrude L., Francis M. and Constance M., who are at home with their father.

It may be said of Doctor Freeborn that not only does he rank high as a physician and specialist and not only does he command the unbounded esteem of his fellow practitioners in Fergus Falls, Otter Tail county, but he also stands high as a citizen and as a man of worth. He is interested in the progress and development of the city where he lives and with which he cast his lot many years ago. Doctor Freeborn's three daughters are popular in the social life of Fergus Falls.

NELS BENGTSON.

One of the prosperous farmers and successful business men of Clitherall township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, is Nels Bengtson, who deserves a high rank among the worthy citizen of his township and county.

Mr. Bengtson was born at Skane, Sweden, September 3, 1865, and is a son of Bengt Nelson and Bengta Nelson, both of whom were natives of Sweden, where they grew up and were married. Mr. Bengtson's mother died at his birth, and his father later married Johanna Monsen, who, with one son, came to America in 1868. They settled in Sibley county, Minnesota, where the father still resides, at the age of eighty-five years. His second wife is also still living. He is a prosperous farmer and landowner, and both he and his wife are earnest and devoted members of the Augustana Synod of the Lutheran church. Mr. Bengtson was the only child of his father's first marriage, but to his second marriage there were born seven children, as follow: John, who died at the age of eighteen; Matilda, unmarried, living at home with her parents; Emil, a farmer living in Sibley county, Minnesota; Martin, also a farmer in Sibley county; Annette, who died early in life; Esther and Mary, who live at home with their parents.

Nels Bengtson was reared by a relative in his native land, and educated in the public schools of Sweden. When he was old enough he engaged in farming, but in 1883, emigrated to America, and after landing in New York came to his father's home in Sibley county, Minnesota. He worked for a time in Nicollet county, this state, but in 1884, Mr. Bengtson moved to Otter Tail county, where, for a time, he worked on various farms. In 1893 he purchased one hundred and fifty acres of land in sections 32 and 33, Clitherall township, where he lived until 1904, when he purchased fifty acres of additional land on the north of the first farm. This farm had

good buildings on it, so that Mr. Bengtson immediately moved to the second farm, and here he has lived since. He raises a great deal of live stock, and is engaged in mixed farming. Shortly after purchasing this farm he set out a young orchard, and has improved the place in various ways. Formerly, Mr. Bengtson was a director in the Farmers Co-operative Elevator Company, but is not now serving in this capacity.

In 1905 Nels Bengtson was married to Jennie Johnson, a native of Sweden, who is a daughter of Swen Johnson, who is still living in Sweden. Mr. and Mrs. Bengtson are the parents of seven children: One, who died in infancy, unnamed; Elmer, who died in infancy; Edith, also deceased; Herbert, Willie, Edith and John Edward.

Mr. and Mrs. Bengtson are members of the Swedish Lutheran church, in which they are actively interested. Mr. Bengtson is independent in politics. He served for ten years as assessor of his home township, and was road supervisor for two years, discharging the duties of both positions in a most capable manner.

KLEBER B. WILKINSON.

Kleber B. Wilkinson, a successful farmer of Leaf Lake township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, is the son of Ralph and Elizabeth (Townsend) Wilkinson, the former of whom was born at Valparaiso, Indiana, and died in Otter Tail county, August 2, 1900, and the latter born in Vermont and died here on June 30, 1897. The late Ralph Wilkinson was a farmer by occupation in Leaf Lake township, Otter Tail county, but, late in life, moved to Oregon, where his wife died. He then returned to Otter Tail county and died here about sixteen years ago.

To Ralph and Elizabeth (Townsend) Wilkinson were born eleven children, all of whom are living: Kleber, Volney, Electa, Jennie, Archie, Robert, Jesse, Irvin, Anna, Harley and Mabel.

K. B. Wilkinson lived at home on his father's farm until November 16, 1892, when he was married to Mrs. P. F. Dibb, the widow of P. F. Dibb, of Leaf Lake township. Mrs. Wilkinson's maiden name was Mary Taylor. After her marriage to the late P. F. Dibb, she lived in Sibley county for six years, where they rented land. Later they homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres in section 26, Leaf Lake township, Otter Tail county, and it was here that Mr. Dibb died on September 20, 1888. By this marriage there was born one child, Lura J., who married Oscar Peterson, of Hillsboro, North Dakota. Lura J. taught schol for seven years in Otter Tail county. The late P. F. Dibb was constable of Leaf Lake township and was active in local affairs during his life.

Mr. and Mrs. K. B. Wilkinson have no children, but they have taken

three children to rear, Althema Hemby, Clarence Gribbon and Nordeen Nelson. All of these children live with Mr. and Mrs. Wilkinson at the present time.

Mrs. Wilkinson owns eighty acres of land and her daughter, Mrs. Oscar Peterson, also owns eighty acres in this township. Their home was built in 1897 and the barn at the same time.

Mr. Wilkinson is a farmer by occupation and a carpenter. For the past two years he has been foreman of the Monarch Elevator Company. He is a highly respected man and citizen and is popular in this community.

HENRY PLOWMAN.

Henry Plowman, farmer, stock raiser, war veteran—and prominent not only in local official life, but in the affairs of the state as one serving in the Minnesota Legislature, where he made an honored record—was born in Canada, about sixty miles east of the city of Quebec, on July 15, 1836, a son of William and Margaret (Manley) Plowman, natives of Ireland, the former born near Dublin, the latter in County Wexford. William Plowman, about the year 1828, came to America and located in Canada, where he lived until 1857 and then moved to LeSueur county, Minnesota, where he lived for the remainder of his days. William and Margaret Plowman were the parents of eleven children, three sons and eight daughters. Mr. and Mrs. Plowman were active members of the Episcopal church, in which they were devout worshippers.

Henry Plowman received his education in the common schools of Canada, after which he worked as a farmer for some time and then, in 1856, when twenty-one years of age, one year before his parents came to the United States and located in LeSueur county, Minnesota. There Henry Plowman bought one hundred and sixty acres of government land, paying for it the sum of one dollar and twenty-five cents per acre, and became a farmer, in which line of activity he was engaged for more than ten years.

About 1878 Mr. Plowman disposed of his land in LeSueur county, Minnesota, and came to Otter Tail county, locating in Hobart township, where he homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of unimproved land, and in order to reach the place he found it necessary to cut a road through the uncleared land. On his newly-acquired land Mr. Plowman built the necessary buildings, cleared the land by his own efforts and has since lived on this place as one of the community's most successful farmers and stock raisers, he now owning two hundred and eighty acres of land, all of which is in a high state of cultivation.

The activity of Henry Plowman has not been limited to agricultural pursuits, for in the autumn of the year 1862 he enlisted with the First

Minnesota Cavalry, and for the following year was engaged in the Indian campaigns as a part of the command of General Sibley. After the first Indian campaign Henry Plowman re-enlisted with the Second Minnesota Cavalry, and with General Sulley was engaged in the battle of Big Hills, as well as having participated in various other engagements under the command of that officer. Mr. Plowman served as a soldier until December, 1865, when he was honorably discharged, after which he returned to the more peaceful pursuits of agriculture.

Henry Plowman was married in 1866 to Frances Smedley, a native of Ohio, and to this marriage were born two children, Alice and Herbert Henry. Mr. Plowman was married, secondly, in 1877, to Etta Seal, who was born in LeSueur county, Minnesota, and to this marriage have been born five children: Grace, May, Frances, Margaret and John. Mr. Plowman is a member of the Episcopal church, and Mrs. Plowman is affiliated with the Christian church.

As one taking a leading place in the public and official life of his township, county and of the state of Minnesota, Mr. Plowman has a most honorable and able record for efficiency and for his unselfish devotion to the interests of his constituents. While a citizen of LeSueur county Mr. Plowman served as county commissioner and was active in the official life of his township. The official career of Henry Plowman in LeSueur and Otter Tail counties has included all of the township offices, all of which he has occupied with honor to himself and to his community. Mr. Plowman is probably best known for his record and his service as a member of the Minnesota state Legislature, in which this worthy citizen occupied a seat in the House of Representatives for six years, and served one year as sergeant-at-arms. As a member of the state Legislature Henry Plowman was returned on two occasions, in all serving three terms as a member of the Populist party. Mr. Plowman is now independent of political party.

SHELDON M. RECTOR.

Of those citizens who have done, and are doing, great things in the interest of Otter Tail county, and more especially for the benefit of Deer Creek, Minnesota, few are doing more than Sheldon M. Rector, who as the editor and publisher of the *Deer Creek Mirror*, is not only influencing public opinion, as directed by the most approved and enlightened thought, but is engaged in the pursuit of business enterprise, in order that the town and community may be even more thriving and that the community may find a convenient and suitable market for its produce.

Sheldon M. Rector was born in Pierce county, Wisconsin, on March

22, 1870, the son of William B. Rector, who was born in New York state, on October 2, 1844, and of Mary (Miles) Rector, who was born on March 5, 1845, in New York state. William B. Rector was the son of Charles Rector, who was directly descended from the original Mohawk Valley Dutch, and who was a grandson of a soldier of the American Revolutionary War. Charles Rector was a farmer in New York state, where he lived until the year 1850, and then went to the state of Wisconsin, where he bought a farm in Dodge county. Here he spent the remainder of his days, and here William Rector, father of the subject of this sketch, lived until the outbreak of the Civil War, when he enlisted in the Twenty-ninth Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, serving with that regiment for about eight months, and then was discharged as a result of inability, caused by sickness acquired while on duty. Following his service in the Civil War, William Rector returned to the state of Wisconsin, where he lived until the year 1876, at that time coming to the state of Minnesota, locating about six miles west of LeSeuer. In 1881 he moved to Leaf Lake township, where he bought eighty acres of land from C. J. Wright. On this place William Rector and his wife lived, until retired from the farm, when they moved to the town of Henning, Minnesota, where they now live. William and Mary Rector are the parents of seven children, Sheldon M., Maud, Minnie, who died at the age of eighteen years; Victor C., Fred C., Mattie and Marie. In politics, Mr. Rector is a Democrat.

Sheldon M. Rector, the subject of this sketch, received his education in the common schools of Otter Tail county, after which he taught school for ten years. During two years of his time as a school teacher, he was principal of the school at Deer Creek; one year a teacher in the schools of Parkers Prairie, and the remainder of his teaching period was spent in the country schools of the county. In 1908 Mr. Rector came to Deer Creek, after some years as a grain buyer at Bluffton, Minnesota, for the Andrews Grain Company, and on August 14, of that year, he purchased the *Deer Creek Mirror*, a local paper which at the time that he took possession, he found to be in a poor condition. With some effort, Mr. Rector was able to revive the paper, until he now has one of the best edited and best managed of the smaller papers in the state. In addition to his duties as a publisher, Mr. Rector engages in the buying of grain for his brother, F. C. Rector, who is the proprietor of an elevator located at Deer Creek.

On November 29, 1890, Sheldon M. Rector was married to Mary Kruger, who was born in Beaver Dam, Wisconsin, and to this marriage have been born the following children: Morna, who was born on September 16, 1903; Marsden, July 4, 1905; and Una, February 15, 1910. Mr.

Rector and his family are members of the Methodist church, a congregation in which they are active workers.

In public and political circles, S. M. Rector has taken a prominent place, both as an occupant of public office and as a citizen, supporting all movements for general welfare and public good. Mr. Rector is now president of the school board, an office which he has occupied for two years, and in the past he served his community as president of the village council and also as justice of the peace. The efforts and achievements of Mr. Rector are important factors in the life of Deer Creek and the community, and, with his family, Mr. Rector will long be recognized as among those people without whom the county and township would be less advanced and less progressive.

JOHN B. HOMPE.

Few men of Otter Tail county, Minnesota, have reached such heights in various lines of endeavor and in public life as has John B. Hompe, who is an extensive landowner, enterprising merchant, honored representative of the people in high office, and a veteran of the Civil War.

John B. Hompe was born in Amsterdam, Holland, on February 4, 1846, the son of Anthony P. and Alida (Wyman) Hompe. His father was born on March 11, 1823, and his mother on August 29, 1822, both being natives of Holland, in which country Anthony Hompe followed his trade as a cabinet-maker until the year 1849, when, with his family, he came to America and after landing at New York City, he went to the town of Auburn, New York, where he followed his trade for seven years and then moved to Oswego county, New York, where he bought a farm, on which place he lived until the year 1911, when he died. Anthony and Alida Hompe were the parents of five children, John B., Alida, Mary, Anna and William; the latter died when he was twenty-two years of age.

John B. Hompe received his education in the common schools of New York state and in the Falley Seminary, New York, after which he enlisted as a volunteer for service with the One Hundred and Forty-seventh New York Infantry, with which he served for three years and during which time he was slightly wounded a number of times. Following his discharge from service in the Civil War, John B. Hompe returned to New York state, where he lived for some time. In 1875 he went to Ionia, Michigan, teaching in the schools of that town for one year, after which he came, in the spring of 1876, to the state of Minnesota, and homesteaded a farm of one hundred and sixty acres of land in Newton township, Otter Tail county, living on this place for some time. He then sold out and came to Deer

Creek township, Minnesota, purchased a farm and followed general agricultural pursuits for the next sixteen years. After this time Mr. Hompe moved to the town of Deer Creek and established a general mercantile business, in which he has been successfully engaged for more than twenty-three years. In addition to this business, Mr. Hompe also is the owner of a farm of one hundred and twenty acres of land in Deer Creek township, Minnesota, together with a fine brick building in which he conducts his business, and a number of lots in the town of Deer Creek.

On April 1, 1879, John B. Hompe was married to Ella E. Nottingham, and to this marriage have been born five children, Howard, Bernard, Byron, Herrold and Edward.

Mr. Hompe is a member of the Masonic blue lodge, the Modern Woodmen of America, and the Knights of the Maccabees. He is probably best known in Otter Tail county for his service and record as a representative of the people in the state Legislature, he having served his county as a representative in the sessions of the year 1889 and of the year 1914. He was also elected to a seat in the state Senate for the session of the years 1891-3, and in these offices made a good and honorable record. During his legislative career, Mr. Hompe was probably best known for his activity in connection with the Stillwater prison twine plant bill.

The life of John B. Hompe has been of much value to his county and to his community, being a citizen who at all times has served unselfishly and with a view to promoting the welfare of the great majority, as well as seeking the advancement of the general interests of the locality.

FERDINAND PETERS.

Ferdinand Peters, prosperous farmer, extensive landowner, and prominent citizen of Friberg township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, was born in Waren, Mecklenburg, Schwerin, Germany, on February 17, 1851, the son of Christian and Sophia (Lauw) Peters, natives of Germany. Christian Peters was a farmer in his native country, an occupation which he followed during his entire life. Christian and Sophia Peters were the parents of the following children: Charles, Mary and Ferdinand. Sophia, the wife of Christian Peters, died in the year 1887; Christian Peters died in 1868.

Ferdinand Peters, with his mother and sister, Mary, came to America in May, 1868, and located in Goodyear county, Minnesota, where they lived for two years and then, in April, 1870, Ferdinand Peters, with his household, moved to Fergus Falls township, where he joined his brother, Charles, with whom he lived for a time. In 1872 Mr. Peters pre-empted

one hundred and sixty acres of land in section 32, Friberg township, he being the first settler to receive land after this plan, in Friberg township, Otter Tail county. As a farmer, Ferdinand Peters prospered and added modern improvements to his place. He also added land, in Friberg township and elsewhere, until Mr. Peters is now the owner of three hundred acres of land in Friberg township, Otter Tail county, as well as three hundred and twenty acres of land in Canada. He now engages in general agricultural pursuits on his farm in Friberg township.

In 1875 Ferdinand Peters was married to Mary Vollmers, a native of Stode, Germany, and to this marriage have been born the following children: William, August, Henry and Wilhelm, who are deceased; Bertha, who married Theodore Westerhaug, and to whom have been born three children, Mable, Elsie and Lillie; and Minnie, who married Henry Beneman, and to whom has been born one child, Arthur. Mr. Peters and family are members of the German Lutheran church, an organization which Mr. Peters was instrumental in establishing in Friberg township in 1873. Ferdinand Peters has taken an important part in the history and public life of Friberg township, Otter Tail county. He aided in the organization of the township and gave much of his time and ability as the occupant of various local offices. Mr. Peters helped to establish rural route No. 5, free mail road delivery, in 1903. He also assisted in the organization of the Friberg Telephone Company, in which he is a stockholder.

ARTHUR D. BAKER.

Having been dependent upon his own resource and compelled to accept the more humble lines of work, then rising to the position of cashier of a prosperous bank and becoming a leading business man, prominent in the public affairs of the community, is a record which gives to Arthur D. Baker, the subject of this sketch, a place among the most appreciated and honored citizens of Otter Tail county, Minnesota.

Arthur D. Baker was born in South Orlington, Maine, on February 4, 1858, the son of Joseph D. and Belinda Baker, the father being a native of the state of Maine, where, after his education in the common schools of that state, he engaged in general farming. He later established a grocery and provision store, which he conducted for fifteen years and then, shortly after disposing of his stock in order to retire, he died, survived by his second wife, Paulena (Billington) Baker, his first wife, Belinda, having died many years previous. Joseph and Belinda Baker were the parents of five children, Lonzo, Edward, Charles D., Jefferson S. and Arthur David. Lonzo and Edward served in the Civil War, the latter being killed in action.

To the marriage of Joseph and Paulena Baker one son, Frank, was born. Joseph D. Baker, during his life, was one of the best known and one of the most prominent men of his community, having served for two terms as a representative in the state Legislature of Maine. In the more local life he took an active and appreciated part in the affairs of the community. Mr. Baker was a leading member of the Methodist church, and for many years was superintendent of the Sunday school.

Arthur D. Baker, the subject of this sketch, was educated in the common schools of the state of Maine, after which he came to Minnesota, and located, in 1876, at Alexandria, where he secured employment in a livery stable, receiving one hundred dollars per year for his services. He afterwards worked as a stationary steam engineer in a flour-mill; he followed that work for some time and then came to Bluffton, Minnesota, where he worked with his brother, C. D. Baker, in a general store. In 1882 Arthur D. Baker came to Deer Creek, where he established a general store, which he conducted for sixteen years. In 1895 he lost his store and stock as a result of a tornado, after which he became a private banker as the head of the firm known as A. D. Baker & Company, an institution which, later, Mr. Baker reorganized and which is now known as the First National Bank of Deer Creek, Minnesota, and in which he is now cashier. In addition to his interest in the bank at Deer Creek, Mr. Baker is the owner of farm lands in the vicinity, as well as being the proprietor of considerable property in Deer Creek, Minnesota.

In 1879 Arthur D. Baker was married at Alexandria, Minnesota, to Elizabeth Farquhar, who was a native of the state of Minnesota, and in which state she died on April 6, 1889, being the mother of two children, Herbert J., who married Winona Gard, and to whom were born two children, Hazel and Elizabeth; and Harold, who married Marie M. Imsande, to whom was born one child, Louise. On September 12, 1894, Arthur D. Baker was married, secondly, to Etta Woodruff; to this marriage no children were born.

Mr. Baker has been prominent in the public and political life of Deer Creek, Minnesota, having served for sixteen years as town clerk before the town was incorporated, after which he served as president of the town board, as well as serving as school treasurer, an office which he has occupied for more than a quarter of a century. Mr. Baker is a Knight Templar Mason and a member of the Modern Woodmen of America, at Deer Creek. The part taken by Arthur D. Baker and his esteemed family, in the town of Deer Creek and in Otter Tail county, is well known for its helpfulness and unselfish interest in the welfare of the community.

AXEL S. PAULSEN.

The career of Axel S. Paulsen, the pioneer merchant of Henning, Otter Tail county, is one of individual and unaided effort. Mr. Paulsen is a member of an honored pioneer family, his father setting for his children the example of bravery and loyalty, and his mother exemplifying the devotion and self-forgetfulness of which a good mother is capable. Mr. Paulsen was born near Kongsvinger, Norway, on July 22, 1854. In Norway, also, his parents, Soren and Karen Paulsen, were born, grew up and were married. The father, who was a farmer, lived and died in Norway, his death taking place about the year 1900. His wife passed away two years later. Both were members of the Lutheran church. They were the parents of nine children, five of whom grew to maturity. These are: Annie, a widow, living on the parental farm in Norway; Hermani, who married Tosten Gunderson, also lives in Norway; Johanna, the widow of Christian Olson Vold, lives in South Dakota; Kari, the widow of Emil Huseby, living in Henning, and Axel S.

Coming to this locality when what is now a town consisted of two or three houses, Axel S. Paulsen started a general store and became the first merchant of the settlement. He was prominent in various enterprises, ending in the position of bank cashier, which he has honored with good service. He attended school in Norway and worked on the farm until his seventeenth year, when he came to America and was first employed as a clerk in Chicago for a short time. He learned the upholstering trade, at which he worked for eight years in this city, and in 1880 came to the settlement, which later became Henning. On Piece Prairie, where the cemetery now stands, he bought stock and started a small store, this being his first business venture. At this time there were only a few homesteaders in this vicinity and no one was living on the spot where Henning is located. It was when the railroads went through that land that Henning received its start, and Mr. Paulsen then moved his store to town, a distance of one-half mile. He built a store, eighteen by thirty feet, and some time after its occupancy, increased its size threefold. Mr. Paulsen succeeded, and a little later went into partnership with G. A. Satre, under the firm name of Paulsen & Satre. This partnership lasted for five or six years, when Mr. Paulsen bought out the H. T. Smith store, which he occupied, and Mr. Satre retained the old stand. In 1910 Mr. Paulsen disposed of his business in order to become the cashier of the Farmers State Bank, a position which he has held to the present time. The business of this bank has gradually increased and it now has nearly four hundred depositors. The officers are: President, G. A. Satre; vice-president, Alford Knutson; cashier, Axel S. Paulsen.

Christian Larson, a native of Chicago, became the wife of Mr. Paulsen in 1881, and five children have blessed their home. These are: Junius, who died when two years of age; Willard Junius, who died at five; Raymond, a merchant living in Henning, whose wife was Hilma Collins, of Fergus Falls, and the mother of two children, Raymond and Howard; Alice, who married R. T. Nelson, of Mankato; and Lillian, who lives at home.

Since their residence here, Mr. and Mrs. Paulsen have come to occupy a prominent place in church and social circles, and the former is a well-known leader in the commercial world. Having the advantage of long residence here, it is not surprising that they have many warm friends. Both Mr. and Mrs. Paulsen stand high in the estimation of this community.

OLE TORKELSON.

Among the business men and citizens of Henning, a thriving town of Otter Tail county, Minnesota, is Ole Torkelson, the proprietor of a feed store in this town.

Ole Torkelson was born in Norway on February 18, 1846, and is a son of Torkel Olson and Martha (Anderson) Torkelson, both of whom lived and died in Norway, the latter's death occurring in 1850; the former died several years later, at the age of about sixty-five years. They were the parents of two children: Ole, the subject of this review, and Gunda, who is now living in Henning.

Ole Torkelson received his education in the public schools of his native land and, in 1870, emigrated to America and settled in Houston county, Minnesota. The next year he moved to Tordenskjold township, Otter Tail county, taking a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres in that township. After living upon this farm for twelve years and improving it in many ways, Mr. Torkelson disposed of the farm and moved to Henning township, where he purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land, in section 34. In 1914 he sold his farm in Henning township and, having moved to Henning in 1895, has also been engaged in business here for many years. For some time he was the proprietor of a hotel, and later he was engaged in the shoe business. For a number of years, however, he has been engaged in the feed business in Henning.

In 1875 Mr. Torkelson was married to Inger Wolmer, a native of Norway, born there in 1849. Mrs. Torkelson's father died in Norway and after his death, the mother came to Otter Tail county and died a few years ago.

Ole Torkelson and wife are the parents of eight children, all of whom are living, Clara, Melvin, Bergel, Dora, Anne, Alexander, Eddie and Jose-

phine. The mother of these children died on April 20, 1914. She was a good wife and a good mother and was esteemed in the town where she lived for so many years before her death. Mr. Torkelson is an upright man and is rearing his family to honorable and useful lives in this community.

HERMAN J. CORDES.

Herman J. Cordes, Henning's present mayor, is the son of German parents, who braved the dangers and privations of pioneer life, in order to give their children a better, freer existence than they had been able to have in the old country. Mr. Cordes is, however, a self-made man, for, although his early opportunities were meager, he created for himself the conditions of prosperity he desired. He is a successful blacksmith and implement dealer. Mr. Cordes was born in Hanover, Germany, on November 14, 1879, where his parents, Herman and Charlotte (Winter) Cordes, were born, grew up and married.

Herman Cordes, Sr., gave up his farming in the old country to emigrate to America in March, 1885. He was one of the early homesteaders of Leaf Lake township, Otter Tail county, beginning by buying out the improvements of a pioneer. Some years later he sold out to his eldest son and now lives a quiet, retired life with his son, John F., near Henning. His wife passed away on July 18, 1909. They were both members of the Leaf Lake Lutheran church, which they helped to establish. They were the parents of ten children, namely: Henry, a farmer, living on the homestead; Fred, a farmer in Illinois; Mary, who is single and lives with her brother, William, in Wisconsin; Sophia, who married Henry Bolland, a well-to-do farmer, living near Kingsville, Texas; Herman J., the subject of this sketch; Doris, the wife of John H. Schmidt, who lives in Vining; John F., a farmer of Henning township; Dietrich H., who is in the auto business, in partnership with Herman J.; William, a farmer, of Comstock, Wisconsin; Ernest, who owns eighty acres of land near Henning, but lives with his eldest brother.

Herman J. was only six years of age when his parents came to this country, and he began his school days in Leaf Lake township. He lived on his father's farm until his nineteenth year, when he left home and went to Perham to learn the blacksmith's trade. Here he worked with Henry Schmidt for three years. He came to Henning in 1898 and was employed at his trade by John Post for about a year and a half, when he purchased the blacksmith shop of Charles Walters and employed his brother, Dietrich, as his assistant until the year 1910. On January 1, of that year, these brothers became partners in business under the firm name of Cordes Brothers.

They first erected a garage, with forty-eight feet front and fifty-six feet depth, built of concrete, two stories high and equipped with modern machinery for the repairs of autos. This structure is also provided with space for the storage of many cars. About 1907 Mr. Herman started to deal in farm implements, a business in which he has continued to the present time. The plant occupies two buildings, separated by a lot, all of which is owned by the Cordes Brothers. They are agents for the Studebaker, Oakland and Maxwell cars.

On June 26, 1907, Herman J. Cordes was married to Margaret Brockhoff, a native of Germany, who came with her parents to this country when a child. Her father was Louis Brockhoff. To them have been born three children, Rosella, Raymond and Russell. Mr. and Mrs. Cordes are members of the German Lutheran church, of which Mr. Cordes is trustee.

Mr. Cordes has been interested in the general welfare of this community and, while an independent voter, has been a benefactor to his town. He served one term on the village council and in 1913 was elected mayor of Henning. He has twice been re-elected to this office. In the life of Mr. Cordes are to be found undaunted courage, indomitable will and an energy that considered no obstacle too great to overcome. Mr. Cordes has the confidence and esteem of the people whom he has served so well.

ANDREW ANDERSON.

Andrew Anderson, who is well known in the vicinity of Henning, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, as a grain buyer, was born near Battle Lake, in Clitherall township, March 31, 1874, and is the son of Nels and Fredrika Anderson.

Mr. Anderson's father was born in Sweden and in 1868 came to Litchfield, Minnesota. In 1870 he emigrated to Clitherall township and homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of land. Both he and his wife are still living and reside on the old homestead farm in Clitherall township. They had a family of fourteen children, of whom Ida, Gustav, Amanda, John and two unnamed infants are deceased. The living children are Elof, Andrew, Martin, Oscar, Alfred, Selma, Ida and Augusta.

Andrew Anderson was reared on his father's farm and educated in the public schools and at Park Region College. After finishing his education, he clerked in a store for A. S. Paulsen at Henning for a number of years. During the past fourteen years, Mr. Anderson has been engaged in the grain business at Henning and has been very successful in business.

In 1901 Andrew Anderson was married to Alice Mollerstrom, the daughter of Lars Mollerstrom, of Henning, Minnesota. Mr. and Mrs. Anderson have two children, Arvie Willard and Kenneth Wendall.

Mr. Anderson has served as a member of the Henning village council and also as a member of the school board. He was formerly clerk of the village and is at present one of the trustees. Mr. and Mrs. Anderson and family are members of the Swedish Lutheran church.

GEORGE A. POULSON.

One of the most prominent business men of Henning, located in Henning township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, is George A. Poulson, proprietor of a large hardware business in this town.

Mr. Poulson is a native of Denmark, where he was born on February 11, 1858. He is the son of Julius and Mete Lene (Quitsouw) Poulson, both of whom were natives of Denmark. Mr. Poulson's father and mother came to America in 1866 and lived for a year at Grand Rapids, Michigan. In 1867 they came west to St. Cloud, Minnesota, where Mr. Poulson's father spent one summer working in a blacksmith shop. Later the family moved to Crow Lake township, Stearns county, Minnesota, and lived there for ten years, during which time the father took a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres. He also had a blacksmith shop on his farm. On July 3, 1877, the family came to Otter Tail county. Mr. Poulson's father purchased a farm of two hundred and forty acres, three and one-half miles northeast of Henning, in Henning township. In 1881 he engaged in the general mercantile business at Henning, and was in business until his death, in 1889, when he was fifty-three years old. His wife survived him many years, passing away at her home in 1913, at the age of seventy-seven. They were the parents of three children, George A., the subject of this sketch; Jens, who died at the age of six years in Denmark, and Mete Katrina, who is now Mrs. Morris Petersen.

George A. Poulson began his education in Denmark, but, when he was eight years old his parents came to America and he accompanied them. He attended school in Grand Rapids, Michigan, during the year his parents lived in that city and later attended school at St. Cloud for one summer, practically completing his education when he was nine years old. For a short time, however, he was a student in the parochial schools.

In 1879 Mr. Poulson took a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres in Inman township, Otter Tail county, and later purchased forty acres. The homestead farm was situated in section 6, of Inman township, and the forty acres, which Mr. Poulson purchased, in section 2, of the same township. Until February 11, 1886, Mr. Poulson was engaged in farming and, at that time, moved to Henning and engaged in the hardware business. He has

the largest business of any individual in the town and is one of the best-known citizens of this part of Otter Tail county. Mr. Poulson is a stockholder in the farmers' elevator and is treasurer of the organization. Some years ago he sold his farms and now confines himself to the hardware business.

In 1880 George A. Poulson was married to Anna Johanna Knudson, who was born in Denmark on February 24, 1863, and who is the daughter of Jens and Inger Christine (Peterson) Knudson. They came to Crow Lake township, Stearns county, Minnesota, in 1871, and there took a homestead adjoining Mr. Poulson's father's farm. Later they moved to Fisher, in Polk county, Minnesota, where Mrs. Poulson's father died in 1880. Her mother died in the fall of 1889 at Henning, Minnesota. They were the parents of nine children: Anna Johanna, Karen Marie, Knud, Peter, Anton, Mats, John, Jens and Nina.

Mr. and Mrs. George A. Poulson have been the parents of four children: Lena, who died at the age of eleven months; Jens, born in October, 1883, who is in the hardware business at Jamestown, North Dakota, married Emma Harrison and has one child, Jewel Aleda; Julius, born in September, 1886, who assists his father in the store at Henning, married Tina Hansen, and has one child, Lillian Josephine; and John Arthur, born on March 23, 1889, who also assists his father in the store, married Christine Loden, and has one daughter, Ruth Margaret.

Mr. and Mrs. Poulson and family are members of the Lutheran Free church. Mr. Poulson has served as mayor of Henning and has been a member of the council for several years. He has worthily discharged all of his duties as a citizen and business man and is one of the most popular men in Henning township.

DAVID NELSON.

One of the most prosperous farmers and landowners of Otter Tail county, Minnesota, a man who has made a notable success of agricultural pursuits, is David Nelson, the subject of this sketch. Progressive and modern in his methods, as a result of which he has become a man of considerable means, he has proved himself to be of value to his community.

David Nelson was born in Sweden on March 6, 1853, the son of Nels and Ellen Erickson. His father was a general worker, who lived in Sweden during his entire life. He and his wife, Ellen, were the parents of ten children, of whom David came to America.

David Nelson was educated in the public schools of his native country, after which, in the year 1887, he came to America and located in Eastern township, Otter Tail county, where he purchased forty acres of land, later

purchasing one hundred and twenty acres more, which he cultivated, prospering to the point that a short time later he was able to buy two hundred acres of land in another part of Eastern township, all of which he cares for and cultivates to a high state of production. Mr. Nelson, with a true progressive spirit, has placed extensive improvements on his farms, and takes pride in his efforts to make his farms second to none in the community.

In 1880 David Nelson was married to Betsey Nelson, and to this marriage have been born the following children: Kate, Ellen, who died at the age of seven years; Anna, who died at the age of two years; Ellen, Anna, Nels, Matilda, Arthur, Hilding and Dortha. Mr. Nelson and his family are well-known members of the Swedish Lutheran church.

WILLIAM FABIAN.

Of those citizens who have gone to their reward, and who in other days were a force and influence for the progress and advancement of the interests of Otter Tail county, men who have succeeded materially in their own interests and who have been a success as an example of unselfishness in promotion of general welfare, as well as in the development of the county's resources, the late William Fabian was one who did much and one without whom the community might be less advanced and less prosperous.

William Fabian was born in Gross Gauth, West Prussia, Germany, on March 30, 1849, the son of Frederick Wilhelm and Anna Maria (Santofski) Fabian, both of whom were natives of Germany, in which country Frederick Wilhelm Fabian lived until his death at Riesenburg, in 1869, and after which his widow, Anna Maria Fabian, remarried and came to America, with her family and located in the state of South Carolina, later moving to Oshkosh, Wisconsin, where the husband was employed in a match factory for some time, after which they came to Otter Tail county, Minnesota, and settled in Western township, where they spent the remainder of their days.

William Fabian, the subject of this sketch, came to America with his mother and step-father, and located with them in the state of South Carolina, later going with them to the state of Wisconsin, first to the city of Oshkosh and then to Green Bay, Wisconsin, where he was employed in a saw-mill for some time and then came to Otter Tail county and settled in Western township, where he acquired a homestead, in the year 1872, a place on which he made a dug-out for a home, after having made the journey from the state of Wisconsin in a covered wagon, a trip which required four weeks to complete. On reaching Western township, in Otter Tail county, Minnesota, William Fabian was compelled to endure many privations and hardships, as a result of stormy and severely cold weather, which made it difficult to secure food and necessities of life. It is related that during the



MR. AND MRS. WILLIAM FABIAN



first winter in their new location, while William Fabian was engaged at his duties in the forest, some distance away, that a severe snowstorm came up, making it impossible for this pioneer to find shelter for four days, and during which time his wife was imprisoned in their dug-out home. As time went on William Fabian experienced better days and placed many improvements on his farm, together with acquiring additional acreage, until he was the owner of two thousand acres of well-improved and well-cultivated land, on which he engaged in general farming and stock raising.

On April 15, 1872, William Fabian was married to Augusta Caroline Roloff, who was born in Mollstow, Pommern, Germany, on August 28, 1854, the daughter of Carl and Augusta (Dummer) Roloff, both of whom were born in Germany and lived in their native country until the year 1871, when they came to America and located in Winnebago county, Wisconsin, and later moved to Otter Tail county, where Carl Roloff was engaged as a farmer, until his death on March 26, 1889. To the marriage of William and Augusta Fabian were born the following children: Herman, Rosa, Lena, Anna, Carl, Martha, William, Bertha, John, Arthur and Walter.

William Fabian was one of the best known and most interested and devout members of the Emmanuel church, of the Evangelical Association in Western township, he being largely responsible for the organization of the church in which he took an important part in the arrangement for and the construction of the church building. In political life Mr. Fabian was influential and was always ready to support all movements for the good or advancement of county interests. William Fabian for a number of years served his township in the office of township treasurer.

William Fabian, good man and ideal citizen, died on November 4, 1912, mourned by a host of friends and admiring fellow citizens.

JULIUS I. HOLEN.

A representative farmer of this township is Julius I. Holen, who has become one of the leading agriculturists of this section of the state. He was born on the farm on which he still resides on November 7, 1876. He is the son of John Holen and Anna Ellefsdatter, both of whom were born in Norway. They were unmarried when they came to this country many years ago and, subsequently, were married in Wisconsin. From there they came to Pelican township and homesteaded the farm on which their son, Julius, now lives. John Holen homesteaded a claim of one and a quarter sections, increasing this until he owned three hundred and sixty acres. The majority of the buildings now on this farm were erected by him. Mr. Holen was prominent in the community and was for several years a mem-

ber of the township board of trustees. He was a member of the Norwegian Lutheran church. He passed away on the farm on which he had lived since early manhood. Mr. and Mrs. Holen were the parents of five children: Julius Ingvald and Edward Christian, both of whom are deceased; Caren Christina, Julius Ingvald and Edward Christian.

Julius I. Holen was educated in this county and trained in farm work. At the death of his father, in 1895, he operated the farm of two hundred and eighty acres, on which he has become a general farmer. Here he has lived since that time.

In 1905 Mr. Holen was united in marriage to Gina Afseth, a native of Pelican township and daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Mons Afseth, of the same township. The children born to this union are Alice Agnora, Minnie, Jeanette, Mildred, Adelaide, Norval Julin and Norman Grover, twins; Irvin Clifford and Bernice Eleanor.

For a number of years Mr. Holen was the assessor of Pelican township and for the past six years has been township clerk. Mr. Holen's life is an example of the rewards of unremitting labor. He is optimistic in his views, and his personality is truly inspiring.

OLE L. SOLUM.

Ole L. Solum, a well-known farmer and auctioneer of St. Olaf township, this county, is a native of Norway, having been born in Sigdal, Norway, February 8, 1859, son of Lars Olson and Gonora (Gundbjornsdatter) Solum, both natives of Norway, the former of whom was born on May 31, 1823, and who became pioneers of Minnesota, their last days being spent on a homestead farm in Douglas county, this state.

Lars Olson Solum received an excellent education in the schools of his native land and became a school teacher, remaining thus engaged until he and his family came to the United States in 1866. Upon their arrival in this country the Solums proceeded to Iowa, arriving at Decorah, that state, on July 2, 1866, remaining there about a year, at the end of which time they came to Minnesota and settled in Alexandria township, Douglas county, where Mr. Solum homesteaded a quarter of a section of land. He established his home there in 1868, and there he spent the remainder of his life, long being regarded as one of the most substantial and influential residents of that community. He and his wife were the parents of eight children, and until their homestead had been brought under cultivation and proper conditions of living established in the neighborhood in which they settled, they were compelled to endure the inevitable hardships of the pioneers' lot. The Indians still were numerous thereabout in those days, besides which

there were bears, deer and plenty of mosquitoes—in fact, all kinds of wild game. St. Cloud was the nearest railroad point and the nearest mill was forty-five miles distant, but in spite of these handicaps Mr. Solum stuck to the homestead and at the time of his death, on March 23, 1904, he had the place entirely cleared and under cultivation. His widow, ever a valuable and competent helpmeet, survived him less than four months, her death occurring on July 12, of that same year. They were prominent members of the Norwegian Lutheran church and for many years Mr. Solum served the congregation of that church as choirmaster. In the early days he also served as lay minister and as teacher in the Norwegian school in the neighborhood of his home.

The names of the eight children of Lars Olson Solum and wife follow: Christina, Effie, Lizzie, Carrie, Ole L., Anton L., Julius and Elnora. Christina married Chet VanDyke, and has seven sons and one daughter; Effie married F. Englund, and has five children; Lizzie married John Scott, and has seven children, four sons and three daughters; Carrie married Olaf Solum, and has five children; Anton L. Solum, who is unmarried, remains on his father's homestead, where he is conducting an up-to-date dairy farm and is engaged in breeding full-blooded Guernsey cattle, also serving as director of the Nelson cornet band; Julius L., for the past twenty years a traveling salesman, at present representing Hudson, Thurber & Company, hardware and supplies, of Minneapolis, making his headquarters at Osakis, this state, married Lottie Johnson, and has four children; Eleanor, deceased, married Nels Sather and had four children.

Ole L. Solum was about seven years old when he came to this country with his parents in 1866 and his youth was spent on the homestead farm in Douglas county. In his early boyhood he assisted his father in the labors of developing the home place, and at the age of seventeen came to Otter Tail county, where for several years he was employed as a farm hand in the neighborhood of Fergus Falls, remaining thus engaged until the fall of 1885, at which time he bought a quarter of a section of land in St. Olaf township, this county, where he since has made his home. To this original tract he later added an adjoining "forty," and now has a well-improved and profitably-cultivated farm of two hundred acres. Mr. Solum also is engaged in general auctioneering, crying sales throughout this and adjoining counties.

In 1881 Ole L. Solum was united in marriage to Anna Johnson, who was born in Norway on July 24, 1861, daughter of Nels and Genetta (Estendatter) Johnson, both natives of Norway, the former of whom was born on September 3, 1833, and the latter, November 1, 1838, who came to the United States in 1866 and located in St. Olaf township, this county.

being thus among the very earliest settlers of that part of the county. Upon locating there, Mr. Johnson bought a quarter of a section of "government land" at one dollar and a quarter the acre and has added to the same until he now is the owner of a fine farm of two hundred and forty acres. To Mr. and Mrs. Solum one child has been born, a daughter, Gurena, born on April 7, 1882, who married Gustav Hoff, now living in Sheridan county, Montana, and has two children, Orvilla Lawrence and Gladys Cornella.

ANDREW A. BELMONT.

One of the prosperous merchants of Henning, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, is Andrew A. Belmont, who is now the proprietor of a general mercantile store at Henning.

Mr. Belmont was born in Sweden in 1844, and is a son of Andros Erickson and Anna (Stena) Belmont, both of whom were natives of Sweden, and who died in that country.

In 1869 Andrew A. Belmont emigrated to America and settled at St. Paul, Minnesota, when it was still a small city. After having been employed for about four months with the Valley railroad he removed to Rochester, Minnesota, and during the harvest time worked in the wheat fields. After living in and around Rochester for some time, Mr. Belmont returned to St. Paul, where he entered the employ of the Northern Pacific Railway Company. In 1871 he came to Otter Tail county, where he homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres in section 6, Leaf Mountain township. He also pre-empted eighty acres of land. Having sold his farm lands in 1898, Mr. Belmont moved to Henning and engaged in the lumber business. He disposed of his lumber interests in 1904, and thereafter engaged in the mercantile business. The building in which his store is housed is a two-story structure, fifty by fifty feet. At one time Mr. Belmont was engaged in the furniture business, and his son, Anton, is now conducting a furniture business.

In 1872 Andrew A. Belmont was married to Annastena Swanson, a native of Sweden, where her birth occurred in 1847. Mrs. Belmont's father died in Sweden, and after his death her mother came to Otter Tail county, where her death occurred several years later, at the home of her son, John, in Leaf Mountain township.

To Mr. and Mrs. Andrew A. Belmont have been born six children, all of whom are living, as follow: Anton, Selma, Mary, Ida, Carl and Hulda. Mr. Belmont and his family are members of the Swedish Lutheran church, in which they take an active interest. Mr. Belmont has been very successful in both his farming and business operations, and today is rated as one of the self-made, substantial citizens of his community.

OLE O. STUBSKIND.

Otter Tail county, with its large element of population from Norway, has no better type of the man following agricultural pursuits successfully, than in the person of Ole O. Stubskind, of Nidaros township.

Ole O. Stubskind was born in Vardalen, near Trondhjem, Norway, on July 21, 1859, the son of Ole and Annie Marsta (Skafhaug) Stubskind, who were born in the same city, the father in 1820 and the mother in 1830. Ole and Annie Stubskind were married in the town of their birth and shortly afterward engaged in the pursuit of farming, until 1873, when Ole Stubskind, after providing for his family in Norway, came to America and joined a brother-in-law, in Ashby, Minnesota, later coming to Nidaros township, where he took up a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres of land in section 10, a place which he found to be covered with timber. Ole Stubskind proceeded to clear his newly-acquired land and he built a cabin near the place where his present home is located. Here this pioneer citizen lived for seven years, and then sent for his wife and son, who were in Norway. Before their arrival he had provided a convenient and substantial log and wooden house for their comfort. At this place Ole Stubskind lived until his death in the year 1889, his wife Annie, at his death, continuing to live on the home place until 1913, when she died. Ole Stubskind was one of the more prominent of the early citizens of Nidaros township, where he served for many years as township treasurer and township supervisor, as well as being the occupant of other local offices. He and his wife were members of the Lutheran church. To Ole and Annie Stubskind was born one child, a son, Ole O., the subject of this sketch.

Ole O. Stubskind was educated in the public schools of Norway, and following his school-days he worked on a farm, and later, on coming to America he succeeded his father on the home place in Nidaros township, Otter Tail county, where he now lives. Ole O. Stubskind has erected on his farm a new house and barn and has generally improved his place, together with adding to it, about the year 1882, forty acres of land adjoining. Mr. Stubskind is now engaged as a general farmer and raiser of stock, as well as keeping twenty cows for dairy purposes.

In February, 1891, Ole O. Stubskind was married to Gette Haswosg, who was born in Norway, the daughter of Gabriel and Kjestine Haswosg. To this union were born the following children: Ole, who is employed on a dairy farm at Minneapolis; Gunda, who is employed on a farm in North Dakota; Magda, Melvin, Oletta, Gertie and Selwin. Two children, Sigvard and Olga, died in infancy.

Ole O. Stubskind has taken an important part in business circles and in

the public life of his township and county. He has been a director of the Farmers Elevator Company, at Vining; he has served as township treasurer and for twelve years was treasurer of the school district. Mr. Stubskind has been the occupant of all the township offices, except that of township clerk. In politics, Ole O. Stubskind is a Republican, but in local affairs votes independently. Mr. Stubskind and his wife are members of the Lutheran church at Vining, a congregation in which they are leading communicants.

JOHN WUTAMAKI.

Another of the sterling farmers and pioneers of Otter Tail county, and of Newton township, is John Wutamaki, a man who has done his duty to his community, and whether in business or private life, has so conducted himself, that he has gained the respect and esteem of his fellowmen.

John Wutamaki was born in Finland on December 19, 1869, the son of Mat and Dena Wutamaki, who were born in the same country and lived there, where Mat Wutamaki was a farmer and landowner, until his death. His wife, Dena Wutamaki, now lives on the home place. Mat and Dena Wutamaki were devout members of the Lutheran church, being workers of note and prominence in the congregation, which they served in a most unselfish manner. To the marriage of Mat and Dena Wutamaki were born ten children, of whom three came to America, namely, Mat, who lives in Deer Creek township, Otter Tail county; Fina, who married John Kovonimi and lives at Eveleth, Minnesota; and John, who is the subject of this sketch.

John Wutamaki was educated in the confirmation schools of the Lutheran church in Finland, afterwards working on a farm for some time. In 1888, he came to America and worked in a mine at Eveleth, Minnesota, after which he came to Otter Tail county, and bought a farm of eighty acres of land about three miles north of the village of Bluffton, Minnesota, land that at that time was uncleared and without improvement. On securing possession of his farm, John Wutamaki proceeded to remove the brush and to cut the timber on his land and to build a frame house, in which he lived for five years and then he sold his place and came to Otter Tail county, where he purchased a farm of one hundred and sixty acres of land in section 36, Newton township, a place where he has since lived. On this farm Mr. Wutamaki has placed a number of improvements, among which are a new and modernly constructed house, a large barn, thirty-four by sixty feet, equipped with a hay-fork and provided with the most approved form of stanchions. John Wutamaki, in addition to his general farming, conducts a dairy which is supplied with a herd of about thirty-five cows. In

the larger business interests of the town of Dopelius. John Wutamaki takes a leading and important part, being a stockholder in the Dopelius Creamery Company. His counsel in matters of business in connection with the dairy and creamery industry, is rated as most valuable.

In 1895 John Wutamaki was married to Amalia Heino, who is a native of Finland. To this marriage have been born the following children: William, who is a jeweler and watchmaker of Eveleth, Minnesota; Ida, John, Alexander, Arthur, Herman, Victor, Saima, Elina and Esther, who live at home.

In political affiliation, John Wutamaki is a member of the Republican party. Mr. and Mrs. Wutamaki are members of the Lutheran church at New York Mills, a congregation in which they are highly respected workers and communicants.

M. B. KLEIN.

A well-known citizen and a pioneer merchant of the town of Bluffton, Minnesota, a town in which he is recognized as one of the leading men, both in business activity and in public life, M. B. Klein, who because of his industrious ways and his resourcefulness has risen from the ranks of more common industry to that of a prosperous and enterprising merchant in a thriving community, is one of those men whose record deserves recognition in this volume.

M. B. Klein was born in Morrison county, Minnesota, the son of Nicholas and Mary (Schmidt) Klein, both of whom were born in Germany, where they lived before coming to America and settled in Morrison county, Minnesota, where Nicholas Klein homesteaded eighty acres of land on which he and his family lived for many years. They subsequently moved to Benton county, Minnesota, where the elder Klein bought two hundred acres of land, a place on which he spent his last days. His wife, Mary, is also deceased. Nicholas Klein and his family were members of the Catholic church. To the marriage of Nicholas and Mary Klein were born the following children: Mary, Nicholas, Frank, Katherine, Peter, M. B., John, Lucy and Jacob.

M. B. Klein was educated in the common schools of Minnesota, after which he became a farmer on eighty acres of land which he bought in Benton county, Minnesota, later selling this land and buying one hundred and sixty acres of land which he farmed and later sold. For a considerable period he worked in Rice, Benton county, at blacksmithing. Subsequently, Mr. Klein came to Bluffton, Otter Tail county and established a general store, where he is now engaged as a leading merchant. With time, Mr.

Klein has grown in the business world and now in addition to his large stock as a merchant, he is one of the shareholders in the elevator at Bluffton.

M. B. Klein was married to Bertha Rajkosky, a native of Germany, and to this marriage have been born five children, Thekla, Raymond, Clarence, Alphonse and Alice.

M. B. Klein has found time during his busy life to serve his community as a public man and as an office holder, having served for two years as a member of the village council and at one time he was the able and efficient treasurer of the village.

CHARLES A. MATALA.

One of the most prosperous, as well as most generally known merchants of the town of New York Mills, is Charles A. Matala, who has by intelligent management and by devotion to purpose, become one of the most extensive general dealers of the county. A good citizen, serving his community well and unselfishly in public office, he is among those people whom the community delights to recognize as a representative citizen.

Charles A. Matala was born in Finland on February 14, 1880, the son of Olaf and Mary Matala, who were natives of Finland, and who, in 1881, came to America and located at New York Mills, Minnesota, where Olaf Matala secured employment in a saw-mill, where he has worked since that time. The wife of Olaf Matala died in 1886. To the marriage of Olaf and Mary Matala were born the following children: John, who died when twenty-one years of age; Evert, a cattle dealer and real-estate man of Virginia, Minnesota; Kate, who married C. A. Tervo and lives at Victoria, British Columbia; Charles A., the subject of this sketch, and Olaf, who is a dealer in real estate, of Seattle, Washington.

Charles A. Matala was educated in the public schools of New York Mills. Later, he was employed as a salesman for the firm of Matala and Tervo during about four months, after which he went to the state of Wyoming, where he was employed for two years in the commissary department of the Yellowstone Park Association. He then returned to New York Mills, and accepted a position with the Farmers Mercantile Association, working for twelve years as a salesman and for two years as manager of the business.

In 1908 Charles A. Matala established himself in a small store, on what was known as the R. A. Williams property. After two years of success as a merchant he found it necessary to erect new buildings for his stock, and now conducts his business in a large store building thirty-seven by eighty-four feet, with two stories and a basement, together with eight other small buildings which are used in the conduct of the business. Mr. Matala now carries a general stock, employs about fifteen people and does about one

hundred thousand dollars worth of business annually. In addition to his regular business, Mr. Matala is a stockholder in the New York Mills Creamery Association, a company for which he served as manager for seven years, and he is a stockholder in the New York Mills Farmers Elevator Company.

On June 10, 1910, Charles A. Matala was married to Anna Koste, who was born in Finland. To this marriage were born two children, Mildred and Curtis Melvin.

Charles A. Matala has been prominent in the civic life of the town of New York Mills, having served for eleven years as town recorder. Mr. Matala is a Mason and is a leading member of the local Finnish organization. Mr. and Mrs. Matala are members of the Congregational church, in which they are leading members and active workers.

CHRISTIAN DAMLO.

A well-known farmer and prominent citizen of Gorman township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, is Christian Damlo, who was born in Gorman township, on August 6, 1880, the son of Fredrick and Lena (Rischo) Damlo, both of whom are natives of Germany. Fredrick Damlo is the son of Jacob and Sophia (Schultz) Damlo, the former of whom was a general worker in Germany, where he lived his entire life. Jacob and Sophia Damlo were the parents of seven children, Joseph, John, Dortha, Mary, Christ, Dorater, and Fredrick, father of the the subject of this sketch, and the only one who came to America.

Fredrick Damlo, who was born on February 8, 1841, received his education in the schools of his native land, and in 1869, he came to America and located at Danville, Illinois, where he was a railroad worker for three years. In 1880, he moved to Otter Tail county, and bought one hundred and sixty acres of land in Gorman township, a farm to which he added eighty acres at a later time, and a place which Mr. Damlo, some years later, sold to his children and then retired from active life and now lives at Perham, Minnesota. Fredrick Damlo was married in 1867 to Lena Rischo and to this marriage were born seven children, Charles, Mary, John, William, Christian, Martha and Martin. Fredrick Damlo fought in the War of 1866.

Christian Damlo was educated in the common schools of Gorman township, Otter Tail county, after which he became a farmer, working for some time with his father on the home place. At the time of his father's retirement from farm life, Christian Damlo acquired a part of the home farm, where he now lives and engages in general agricultural pursuits.

On November 9, 1904, Christian Damlo was married to Martha

Buchaus, and to this marriage have been born five children, Fredrick, Adelbert, Herbert, Lambert and Blundine. Mr. and Mrs. Damlo are rearing an adopted child, Fritz Poliske. Mr. Damlo and his family are active members of the German Lutheran church, a congregation in which they are prominent workers and appreciated communicants.

As a business man, Christian Damlo has been notably successful. He is a stockholder in a creamery company, as well as a member of the Farmers Shipping Association, of Gorman township. Mr. Damlo has served his township as a supervisor and as a member of the town board. He proved to be a good and satisfactory official while filling these positions.

JOHN LAURITZEN.

A contractor and builder of Fergus Falls, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, is John Lauritzen, whose career has been confined principally to the erection of public buildings, and there are standing today not only in Otter Tail county, but throughout this and adjoining states, many buildings of his making.

Mr. Lauritzen is a native of Denmark, having been born there in 1863. He is the son of Anders and Johanne (Johansen) Lauritzen, both of whom are deceased.

Mr. Lauritzen was twenty years old when he came to America in 1883. He had learned the bricklayer's trade in his native country and, after coming to America, located at Mankato, Minnesota, where he pursued his trade for four years. In 1887 he moved to St. Paul, where he remained for one year, but in the fall of 1888 came to Fergus Falls and worked at his trade until 1890, when he had charge of the construction work at the state hospital at Fergus Falls. In 1892 he was made superintendent of the construction work.

The next year Mr. Lauritzen took his first contract on his own account from the board of trustees of the state hospital for the insane. He was engaged in work there until 1897 and since that period has finished several important jobs, all awarded by the same institution. Mr. Lauritzen's work has been devoted chiefly to public buildings throughout the states of Minnesota, Iowa and the Dakotas. He constructed the postoffice at Waterloo, Iowa, also the postoffice at Bismarck, North Dakota, and at Minot. Likewise, he built the dam for the Otter Tail Power Company and the Hoot Lake power works in Otter Tail county. The postoffice at Fergus Falls, the mebrate asylum at Wilmar, the industrial school for girls at Sauk Center and the Kaddatz hotel at Fergus Falls, were constructed by him.

Aside from his interests in construction and building work, Mr.

Lauritzen is president of the Fergus Manufacturing Company, vice-president of the Northwestern Building Association, of Fergus Falls, and trustee of the Wright hospital. He is a trustee of the Congregational church. Mr. Lauritzen is a director of the Minnesota Employers Association and a director of the Minnesota Employers Mutual Liability Insurance Company. Mr. Lauritzen was married on May 30, 1887, to Anne C. Bohlke, who was born in Schleswig, which province since 1864 has been under the German government. To this union were born five children: Lucia, Marie, Anders and Thomas are still living. Eleanore died in 1913, at the age of twenty.

JACOB RUSCH.

Jacob Rusch, one of the best-known and most substantial retired farmers of the Dent neighborhood, in this county, was born in Germany in 1850, son of Arnold and Anna (Schmitz) Rusch, farming people, whose lives were spent in Germany, the land of their birth. Arnold Rusch served his Fatherland as a soldier during the War of 1840. He and his wife were the parents of thirteen children, five of whom are still living.

At the age of twenty-eight, in 1878, Jacob Rusch was united in marriage to Sophia Serpenberg, also a native of Germany, daughter of Henry and Louisa (Von Dusen) Serpenberg, and eleven years later, in 1889, came to America, proceeding immediately to Minnesota. For the first year of their residence in this state they lived in Carver county and then came to Otter Tail county, locating in Edna township, on section 10, where they bought forty-five acres. Upon this small farm Jacob Rusch pursued his agricultural labors with such diligence that he presently was enabled to enlarge his holdings by the purchase of adjoining tracts, until he became the owner of four hundred acres of fine land, all of which has been well improved and is being profitably tilled. He gave one hundred and eighty acres of the home farm to his sons, retaining the rest for his own use and on this he erected a fine brick house and other good buildings. There he lived until the fall of 1914, at which time he and his wife retired from the farm and moved into the village of Dent, where they purchased a tract of two acres on the edge of the village and erected on it a comfortable home in which they are now living, enjoying the rewards of their active lives of earnest endeavor.

Mr. and Mrs. Rusch are the parents of seven children, all of whom are living, as follow: Henry, Arnold, Louisa, Anna, Godfrey, Jacob and Sophia, who as well as their parents, are members of the Evangelical church and active in good works. The Rusch family is one of the most substantial in the Dent neighborhood and all are held in high regard by their many friends thereabout.

FREDERICK VOGEL.

The late Frederick Vogel, who for years was one of the best-known residents of Star Lake township, this county, came here in 1878, taking a soldier's claim of government land, he having been a veteran of the Civil War, and there he proceeded to make a home in the forest wilderness, soon becoming one of the most influential men in that part of the county.

Frederick Vogel was a German by birth, born in Germany, on April 12, 1828, son of Philip and Catherine (German) Vogel, he a native of Germany and his wife of French origin. Philip Vogel had been for more than forty years a school teacher. He and his wife were the parents of twelve or fifteen children, one of their sons, Frank, a soldier in the German army, having seen active service in the African campaign. Frank Vogel was reported slain in Africa, and was mourned as dead by his family. This was a false report, however, and upon his return home he was greeted as one from the grave. One of his sisters was in a tree, picking fruit, and the appearance of what she thought was an apparition so startled her that she fell from the tree and broke her arm.

After receiving an excellent education in the schools of his home town, Frederick Vogel supplemented his schooling by a course in the Paris schools and became a highly cultivated French scholar. In Paris he learned the trade of gilder, which he followed in that city for three years, after which he started out as a journeyman gilder, traveling over Europe for several years. At the age of twenty-eight he came to America and located at Hollidaysburg, Pennsylvania, where he remained for twenty years, working at the rolls in a rolling-mill. He was living there when the Civil War broke out, and in 1864 he enlisted in Company D, One Hundred and Ninety-second Regiment, Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry, with which he served until the close of the war.

Not long after his arrival in Hollidaysburg, Frederick Vogel was united in marriage to Susan Smith, who was born in Germany, daughter of Martin and Mary (Miller) Smith, both natives of Germany, who came to America in 1841, settling in Hollidaysburg, where the rest of their lives were spent. Martin Smith was a master mason and worked at his trade as a stone-cutter in Hollidaysburg. He and his wife were the parents of six children, Barbara, Martin, George, Susan, Anna Mary and Magdaline. They were ardent Catholics and their children were reared in the faith of the mother church. Upon the death of Susan (Smith) Vogel, Frederick Vogel married, secondly, Anna Mary Smith, who was born in Germany on February 7, 1840. To the first union two children were born, Philip and Martin (twins). To the second union ten children were born, George, Frederick, Kate, Joseph, Anna,

Frank, John, Adam, William and Susan, all of whom were born in Hollidaysburg, Pennsylvania, save the latter two, who were born on the Vogel homestead in Otter Tail county.

In 1878 Frederick Vogel decided to test his fortune in the great Northwest, of which region such glowing reports then were being heard in the East, and he and his wife and their ten children started for Minnesota. They were able to come by rail as far as Perham. They located in Star Lake township, where Mr. Vogel entered a soldier's claim to a quarter of a section of land and there he spent the rest of his life, his death occurring on June 22, 1898. When he entered his homestead the tract was heavily timbered, but he cleared the forest and made a comfortable home, presently having one of the best-tilled farms in that section of the county. Mr. Vogel took a prominent part in the development of that region and was active in all movements having to do with the betterment of conditions thereabout. He was a Democrat and for several terms served the public as township treasurer. Mr. Vogel was an affable, genial man, an accomplished singer, and he and his family early became recognized as among the leaders in the social life of the community.

Frederick Vogel's widow still owns the home place and continued to make her home there until 1904, in which year she moved to Perham and since then has lived about with her children. She is a devout Catholic and all her children likewise are adherents to that faith, the family being held in high regard by their many friends in this county.

HENRY TENTER.

Henry Tenter, well-known farmer and stockman of Edna township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, was born in Germany on January 18, 1857, the son of Henry and Katherine (Rademaker) Tenter, both natives of Germany, the former a member of a family of prosperous landowners and the latter a daughter of Arnold and Margaret (Bishopf) Rademaker. Arnold Rademaker was a cattle dealer and spent his entire life in Germany.

Henry Tenter was educated in Germany, after which he worked as a coal-miner for some time and as an employee of a rolling-mill, of which his father was foreman, for five years. In 1880 he came to America and settled in Edna township, Otter Tail county. Mr. Tenter homesteaded twenty-eight acres of land in Edna township, a place to which he added and now has three hundred acres in his original farm and one hundred and sixty acres in Battle Lake township. Mr. Tenter has greatly improved his farm and now engages in farming and in the raising of cattle, making a specialty of Red-Polled cattle.

In 1882, Henry Tenter was married to Gertrude Ichoff, a native of Germany, and to this marriage have been born the following children: Jerry, Henry, Arnold, Katherine, Anna, William (deceased), Maggie, William (deceased), Dedrick, Lizzie, Emma and Lawrence. Mr. Tenter and his family are members of the German Evangelical church.

GEORGE W. ROBINSON.

George W. Robinson, retired farmer and prominent citizen of Richville, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, was born in Cleveland, Ohio, on March 27, 1830, the son of David and Mindwell (Hodgman) Robinson, the former born on March 12, 1815, in New York state, and the latter born in the year 1823, in Ohio. In the year 1857, David Robinson moved to Michigan, where he lived until his death, at Sturgis, in 1899. Mindwell Robinson died near Cleveland, Ohio, in 1855. David and Mindwell Robinson were the parents of six children, George W., and David Newton, who are living, and Lucinda, Mary Jane, Sarah and Emily, who are deceased.

George W. Robinson was educated in the township schools of Sherman township, St. Joe county, Michigan, after which he established the first saw-mill and grist-mill, of St. Joe county, locating the mill about four miles northwest of Sturgis. In December, 1862, George W. Robinson enlisted for service in the Civil War with Independent Company A, Volunteer Infantry, with which command he served until the end of the war. Later, Mr. Robinson went to Three Rivers, St. Joe county, where he lived until 1872. Afterwards, he moved to Osage, Iowa, lived there until 1879, and then went to Wilkens county, Minnesota, where he homesteaded a farm in Roberts township, and lived there for some time, after which he moved to Richville, and now lives a retired life. As a farmer for twenty-two years Mr. Robinson was thoroughly successful and he is now one of the well-to-do men of the community, being not only the owner of farm land, but also owns property in Kent, Minnesota, as well as the desirable property in which he lives.

On July 7, 1861, George W. Robinson was married at Centerville, St. Joe county, Michigan, to Mary A. Wolfinger, who was born in Bucks county, Pennsylvania, in 1814. To the marriage of George and Mary Robinson were born seven children as follow: James (deceased), Ida, Ebin, Edith, Reuben, Jennie and Clarence. Mary, the wife of George W. Robinson died at Richville, in 1913.

Mr. Robinson has had a most conspicuous and prominent part in the public and official life of the communities in which he has resided. In 1802, Mr. Robinson was elected as probate judge and in 1804 was re-elected,

serving with dignity and efficiency in this capacity until 1896, when he was appointed as postmaster at Kent, Minnesota, an office which he occupied until 1904. While living in Roberts and in McColville townships, Wilkens county, Minnesota, Mr. Robinson served as justice of the peace, and in the days of his residence in the state of Iowa, Mr. Robinson was a citizen who held various offices of honor and trust.

CHARLES A. PETERSON.

Charles A. Peterson is one of the influential and progressive citizens of Vergas, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, who has achieved success in his chosen calling. He is a native of the southern part of Sweden, where his birth occurred on July 14, 1869. His parents were Andrew A. and Christine Peterson, also natives of Sweden, who were born in 1837 and 1840, respectively. Andrew A. Peterson was a millwright by profession and followed that trade until 1905, at which time he retired and is now living on a farm near Nashuit. Christine Peterson, his wife, passed away in 1903. They were both members of the German Lutheran church and were the parents of three children, whose names follow: August, who died in Sweden in 1911; Charles A. and Elias. Elias is a farmer and lives with his father.

Charles A. Peterson received his early education in the schools of his native land, immigrating to America when twelve years of age. He came alone to the United States and located in Fergus Falls, Minnesota, where an uncle, John Holt, was then living. For four years he lived with his relative and attended the public schools of Elizabeth, Minnesota, following which he was employed as a farm hand on the surrounding farms, for more than four years. He then accepted a position as a clerk in a store in Elizabeth, Minnesota, and continued in this occupation until 1904. About this time, it became evident that the town of Vergas was an assured fact and he immediately began erecting a small store, with the intention of entering the mercantile business in the new town. Building operations were begun in March, 1904, and a store, twenty-four by forty feet, was soon completed. Two years later an addition was built and in 1908 another addition, twenty-six by eighty feet, was erected, which now makes the entire building fifty by eighty feet, with more than half of it two stories in height. The first stock of goods was valued at two thousand dollars and the present stock at twenty thousand dollars, and is the largest store in the locality. It draws a trade from a radius of ten miles west and six miles east and south. Four clerks are constantly employed to serve the public and part of the time five are employed.

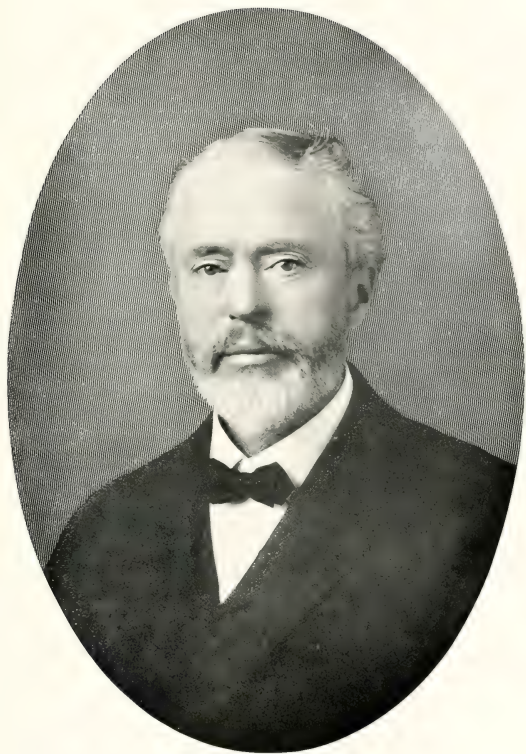
In 1900, Charles A. Peterson was united in marriage to Martha Norg-

ren and they are the parents of five children: Ethel, Elmer, Donald, Kenneth and Helen. Martha (Norgren) Peterson is a native of Otter Tail county, Minnesota, and is the daughter of Andrew Norgren, an old settler of Elizabeth, who now lives in Fergus Falls, Minnesota. Her mother is dead. Charles A. Peterson and his wife are members of the Lutheran church. Politically, he is a Republican and in his fraternal relations he is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America. He is also a stockholder in the Farmers State Bank. Soon after he entered the mercantile business, a partnership was formed with James Nesbit and the firm was known as Peterson & Nesbit, but on January 1, 1911, the partnership was dissolved and he has continued the business alone. In 1913, Charles A. Peterson started himself of a much needed vacation and visited his native land.

CHARLES J. AND CHARLES ROLLA WRIGHT.

The late Charles J. Wright, whose early life and career is so fully and interestingly set out by his mother, the late Mrs. C. C. Clement, in a reminiscient narrative contained in the biographical sketch of Charles Rolla Wright, Sr., presented elsewhere in this volume, was born in West Milton, Vermont, November 2, 1852, the son of Charles Rolla and Elsie (Johnson) Wright, and died at Battle Creek, Michigan, on December 24, 1913.

Upon arriving at Fergus Falls, while still in his 'teens, Charles J. Wright decided to make that place his home. He did some surveying and, as opportunity offered, picked up a little government land. In the meantime he was engaged setting type for the *Weekly Journal*, during which time he also wrote some poetry and occasionally contributed articles of general interest for the newspaper. Later he became fully established as a surveyor and land examiner, and in time was elected to the office of county surveyor, later being elected to the office of clerk of the district court, in both of which positions of public trust and responsibility he proved himself of large service to the general good of the pioneer community. He then became real-estate agent for the Northern Pacific and the Great Northern railways, both of which roads had large landownings. He invested in Minnesota and Dakota lands in the pioneer days, not only on his own account, but also as agent for a number of Eastern firms and in partnership with Thomas S. Buckham and George W. Batchelder, of Faribault. Mr. Wright was greatly interested in agriculture and gradually developed most of his extensive landholdings into productive farms. At the time of his death he was said to have been the largest real-estate owner in Otter Tail county. He ever exhibited great interest in public affairs and was regarded as among the most influential and useful men of affairs in this part of the state. He



CHARLES J. WRIGHT.



served several terms as a member of the city council at Fergus Falls, his service in that connection undoubtedly having been productive of much good to the rapidly growing city, and in 1908 was elected as a member of the state Legislature from this district where his duties were honorably and conscientiously performed.

In 1904 Charles J. Wright organized his business into a corporation under the name of the Charles Wright Company, C. J. Wright, president; C. R. Wright, vice-president, and Mrs. M. F. Wright, secretary and treasurer.

On December 23, 1879, Charles J. Wright was united in marriage to LeMyra Martha Fuller, who was born on October 31, 1856, daughter of Lemar and Abigail (Parker) Fuller, and to this union three children were born, namely: Charles Rolla, Elsie L. and Vernon F.

Charles Rolla Wright, secretary of the Charles Wright Company, of Fergus Falls, was graduated from the Fergus Falls high school, after which he entered the University of Minnesota, from which he was graduated, receiving the degree of Bachelor of Arts in 1905. One year later he received his degree of Bachelor of Laws and was admitted to the bar. Mr. Wright also took a course in agriculture at the University of Minnesota. On June 10, 1908, he was united in marriage to Florence McLean, of Duluth, Minnesota.

Rolla Wright, as he is familiarly known throughout this section of Minnesota, is one of the "live wires" of Fergus Falls and of this county. He has inherited the clear business vision of his father and keeps in close touch with all movements having to do with the general welfare of his home city and the county in general, being regarded as one of the most active promoters of the common good hereabout. Mr. Wright is a careful and conscientious business man and public-spirited citizen.

THEODORE SJORDAL.

Theodore Sjordal, of Underwood, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, well known throughout that section as a public-spirited citizen and dealer in live stock, is a native of Norway, born near Trondhjem, December 24, 1860, son of Ole T. and Guriana (Sundby) Sjordal. The father, who was born near Trondhjem, June 17, 1820, was a son of Thor and Ingebor Sjordal, natives of that place, where they were farmers and lived their entire lives.

Ole T. Sjordal was the eldest of a family of seven children, the others being Martin, Johannes, Olaus, who still lives in Norway; Martin and Johannes died in their native land, as did also three others in childhood. Mr. Sjordal's mother, Guriana Sundby, was born on February 10, 1833, a daughter of Joe and Karen Sundby, natives of the same section of Nor-

way, where they were farmers. Joe Sundby died in early life, leaving three children and his widow. Lars, the eldest child, lived and died in Norway; the second child was Mr. Sjordal's mother, Guriana, and the youngest was Hannah, who still lives in Norway, widow of Sefenies Gudding. After the death of Joe Sundby, his widow remarried, having one child by that union, who is Bernt Oluf, a farmer residing near Underwood.

Mr. Sjordal's parents grew to maturity in the same community and were married in 1858. Ole T. Sjordal was a farmer and landowner and he continued to follow that vocation in his native locality until 1867, when he emigrated to America, leaving his wife and family, consisting at that time of four children, in their old home. Ole T. Sjordal came to Minneapolis, where he remained until 1871, his family joining him in the fall of 1870, and in March, 1871, he came to Otter Tail county and entered a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres in Sverdrup township, his family again joining him in June of that year. He started in on the gigantic task of making good farming lands out of the wild land he had obtained and cleared and erected buildings until he had made a comfortable home. He sold out in March of 1895 and purchased a smaller farm nearer Underwood, where he spent the remainder of his days, having retired from active labor for the last few years of his life. He died in March, 1902.

Ole T. Sjordal took an active interest in the affairs of the community where he had chosen to make his home and was the first township assessor of Tordenskjold township, which at that time included the present town of Sverdrup, and later was active in the management of the affairs of that town. Both he and his wife were faithful members of the Lutheran church and were among the few founders of the local society of that faith. Ole T. Sjordal took great interest in the cause of education and was a school director and supervisor for many years. When young his own educational advantages had been very meager and he educated himself after attaining maturity. After twenty years of age he taught himself to read and write in two languages, and Mr. Sjordal still has in his possession an old diary which his father kept when learning to write. He made family records, a history of his community, and did much other writing as practice work in his effort to perfect himself in that accomplishment. In every sense of the word Ole T. Sjordal was a self-educated man and his store of general information would do credit to many possessing university degrees.

Theodore Sjordal is one of a family of six children, being the second child in order of birth. Jonette, the eldest, born on June 9, 1859, is the wife of Hans P. Borge, of Duluth, this state; Christine, June 3, 1863, is Mrs. C. J. Moen, of Underwood; Ole, June 13, 1866, was a merchant at Ada, this state, where his death occurred; Odin, June 8, 1872, lives at

Kremlin, Montana, where he is a merchant, and Gustav, the youngest of the family, May 30, 1875, is a banker, living in Clay county, this state.

Theodore Sjordal received his education in the little old log school house of district No. 5 and later attended school at Fergus Falls one year. He was early trained in the work of the farm, but has never followed that vocation. For one year he gave his attention to the photographers' art, and in 1885 entered into partnership with his brother-in-law, Hans P. Bjorge, for the transaction of a general merchandise business, including building materials and farm machinery. The firm style was Bjorge & Sjordal, and they had a big store. They also operated an elevator and bought and sold wheat. Their partnership lasted until 1909, and during the latter years of this connection Mr. Sjordal devoted much of his time to buying and shipping milch cows to Michigan, being the first to engage in the stock-shipping business in this section. In 1909 he severed his connection with Mr. Bjorge and had since devoted his time mainly to the buying and shipping of live stock. For about five years he operated a retail meat market, doing well in that venture. He was one of the five men who founded the Underwood Grain Association, adding an elevator to the farmers' grain house. He is still connected with that enterprise and is in addition a member of the building committee and acting foreman of the local Co-operative Creamery Company, the second largest in the county, and is also a director in that concern. For the past ten years he has also acted as president of the Mutual Fire Insurance Company. Independent in politics, Mr. Sjordal has taken an active interest in community affairs, although never having been a seeker after office. Mr. Sjordal is a member of the Unitarian church, taking a commendable interest in the affairs of that society. He holds fraternal affiliation with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Modern Woodmen of America.

On July 25, 1885, Theodore Sjordal was united in marriage with Inga Maria Lein, a native of Norway, daughter of John and Merit Lein, who came to the United States and settled in Hesper, Iowa. They remained there but a short time and then came on to this state, locating at Argyle, at which place the mother died. The father still lives there. Mrs. Sjordal passed from this life January 18, 1905, leaving her husband and eight children, as follow: Elmer, born on March 13, 1886, residing at East Grand Forks, this state, where he is a telegraph operator; Conrad, December 15, 1888, lives at Kremlin, Montana, where he has a homestead and is in partnership with his brother, Richard, in a retail meat market; Richard, October 20, 1890; Edwin, July 13, 1892, remains with the father and is a salesman in the store of the Otter Tail Co-operative Company; Mabel Louise, October 18, 1894, is a student at Faribault, this state; while the other three, Hjalmer,

September 16, 1897; Gudrum Eleanor, October 22, 1901, and Harold Burdette, August 15, 1904, remain at home with the father.

Mr. Sjordal is a man of excellent parts, who has filled an important place in bringing about the development of the commercial life of this section. He possesses genial manners and a kindly disposition and this in connection with his business integrity has won for him the respect and genuine liking of a large circle of friends.

HANS O. OLSON.

Hans O. Olson, one of the leading citizens of Underwood, this county, was born in Norway, March 8, 1856, near Tromsø, son of Ole C. and Guri (Olsen) Olson. Both parents were born in Norway, and there spent their entire lives. The father was a carpenter and shoemaker by trade, which he followed all the active years of his life, his death occurring when he was seventy years of age. Both he and his good wife were faithful members of the Lutheran church, and gave careful attention to the rearing of their seven children. Of these, Hans O., the immediate subject of this sketch, is the eldest; Ole still lives in Norway, where he is a laborer; Olia is the wife of Nils Thygesen of Underwood; Karoline still remains in Norway, the wife of Johan Hendrickson; Kristopher also remains in his native land, a laborer, and two died in infancy.

Hans O. Olson attended the public schools of his native land, but meager was the opportunity for education given, there being but seven school weeks in the year. At the age of fourteen or fifteen he began life for himself as a fisherman and also worked at farming. In 1881, at the age of twenty-five, he emigrated to America and settled in Otter Tail county. Here he secured work on the Northern Pacific railroad, then in course of construction, remaining at that work for some two years. He quit that work to accept a position in the store of Severson & Evanson, the first merchants of Underwood, and in 1889 he left them and returned to Norway, intending to remain in his native land. However, a few months later found him back in Underwood and he then went to work for Ole Loseth in his general store and later was with Bjorge & Sjordal. He was with Mr. Loseth for five years and severed his connection to return to his native land. Again he intended to remain permanently, but in four months was back in America again, and it was then he entered the employ of Bjorge & Sjordal.

Again in 1899 Hans O. Olson returned to his native land, but this time he went for a wife, and while there was united in marriage with Henrietta Hanson, daughter of Hans Olsen. Mr. Olson then brought his wife to Underwood and again began clerking for Bjorge & Sjordal, remaining with them about three years. After a trip to the Pacific coast, where he had

intended to locate, he returned to Underwood, and early in 1904 was elected secretary and treasurer of the Sverdrup Scandinavian Mutual Fire Insurance Company, which position he still fills. The business has grown in a most gratifying manner and there are now about three thousand applications in force with twenty-four hundred members.

Mr. Olson is a very public-spirited man and remains independent in his politics. His interest and ability are appreciated, and upon the incorporation of the village of Underwood he was made treasurer of the town, which place he still occupies. In 1915 he was appointed village assessor, discharging his various duties in a manner which meets with the approval of all. Mr. Olson holds fraternal affiliation with the Modern Woodmen of America and takes an active interest in the work of that order. There are four children in the Olson family. Clara, the eldest, is at home; Hilda died when a child of two and one-half years; Helmar also died in infancy, and Dagny H., the youngest of the family, is a girl in school. Mr. Olson has prospered and has a comfortable home which he erected himself. He is well liked and is eminently worthy of the high esteem in which he is held by all who know him.

HENRY O. ROBERTSON.

Henry O. Robertson, well known as manager of the Underwood Lumber Company, dealers in retail lumber and building supplies, was born at Fergus Falls, this county, January 8, 1878, eldest child of Christian and Marie (Nelson) Robertson. His father was a native of Denmark and the mother was born in Norway. Each came to America when young and settled in Fergus Falls, where they married and lived for a number of years. Christian Robertson was proprietor of one of the first retail meat markets in Fergus Falls, but continued in that business only a short time. Then for a couple of years he clerked in Sundahl's general store, and for some three years was proprietor of the old West House, one of the earliest hotels of that locality. Ill health forced him to live in the open, and in 1885 he left the town and homesteaded a claim of fifty-six acres in Sverdrup township, this county. There he passed the remaining years of his life, his death occurring on February 12, 1897. The mother is still living on the old homestead at the age of sixty-six years.

Christian Robertson was always keenly interested in political questions and was among the earliest advocates of the principles of the Populist party in this section. He was one of the organizers of the Underwood Farmers' Alliance and displayed a commendable interest in all that made for the general advancement of the community. Both he and his wife were members of the Free Lutheran church, governing their lives carefully by its

teachings. Other children of the family are Thora, wife of Charles Holt, living in Canada; William, of Marshall, this state; Jane, who died in infancy, and a surviving daughter of the same name, who is the wife of Oliver Lee, a farmer of Canada.

Henry O. Robertson received his elementary education in the school near his boyhood home, district No. 5, of Sverdrup township, and later had one term in higher studies at the Park Region Lutheran College at Fergus Falls. He took up farming on the family homestead and managed it for some years. In September of 1909 he became connected with the Underwood Lumber Company as manager, which position he has since retained. This company is the leading one of its kind in this vicinity and carries from five to six thousand dollars worth of stock at all times, carrying brick, cement, lime, etc., in addition to lumber.

Mr. Robertson is independent in politics and as an evidence of the regard in which he was held in his boyhood home he served as supervisor of Sverdrup township to the satisfaction of all. Mr. Robertson has displayed more than ordinary business ability, and in view of his genial manner is well liked by personal friends as well as represented by business associates.

EDWARD WENDT.

Edward Wendt, a native of Oderberg, Germany, was born on December 11, 1853, the son of Henry and Henrietta (Riebe) Wendt, both of whom were natives of Germany. Henry Wendt died in his native country. The widow came to the United States in 1887, accompanied by some of her children and located in Buffalo, New York, where she died some years later. Mr. and Mrs. Wendt were the parents of the following children: August, Wilhelmina, Louise, Caroline, Emma and Edward.

Edward Wendt was educated in the public schools of his native country, after which he served three years in the German army. After his term with the military forces expired he became a maker of brick, which occupation he followed until 1892, when he came to America. On coming to the United States he came at once to Pine Lake township, where he purchased eighty acres of land, which is his home at the present time. He devoted the greater part of his time during the first three years to work in the making of brick at Perham.

Since the purchase of his first land, on coming to his new home, he has added one hundred and twenty acres to his farm. The land was without buildings and undeveloped, but by hard and diligent labor he today has the present buildings and the well cultivated fields, the greater part of the clearing and breaking of the land being done by Mr. Wendt. He practices

general farming with success and his fields are among the best cultivated in the community.

Edward Wendt was married in 1876 to Ulriecke Lehman at Oderberg, Germany. Mrs. Wendt has been of much assistance to her husband in his successful and active life. They are the parents of the following children: Clara, Bernard, Louise, George, Emma, Paul, Robert, Mary, Frieda, Edward and Otto.

EVEN S. EVENSON.

Even S. Evenson, ex-postmaster at Underwood, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, was born in Norway, September 25, 1861, near Trondhjem, which is the second largest city in that country. He is a son of Sivert and Kjersti (Lodin) Eveson, the former born on the same farm in April of 1828, and the latter born in the same neighborhood in 1841. Sivert Evenson was a son of Even Moshong, who lived and died on the old homestead near Trondhjem, which had been in the family for several generations.

In 1867 Sivert Evenson brought his family to America, there being at that time three children, Even S. being the eldest. They located at Menominee, Wisconsin, where they remained but a year and then located on a farm in St. Croix county, about nine miles east of the town of New Richmond, Wisconsin. Their farm consisted of one hundred and sixty acres and the family lived there for a number of years. The father's death occurred on August 31, 1908, when in his eightieth year and the mother yet lives at Deer Park, Wisconsin, at the age of seventy-four years. Both were from early childhood members of the Lutheran church and were among the organizers of the first church of that belief in their neighborhood. Sivert Evenson was a man of quiet and industrious habits, who gave the best efforts of his life to his private affairs and to the careful training of his large family.

Even S. Evenson, as before stated, was the eldest of his family; and the second is Ole, who is a blacksmith and lives at Deer Park, Wisconsin; Ella became the wife of Clarence Benedict and made her home at New Richmond until the time of her death; Olaf has been unheard of for the past eighteen years; Sivert is a farmer, located at Turtle lake, Wisconsin; Emma is the wife of Hans Jensen and lives at South Stillwater, this state; Charles resides at Hudson, Wisconsin, where he is a stationary engineer; Ernest, who is unmarried, makes his home with Charles and is employed in a planing-mill; Martin also lives at Hudson and follows the carpenter trade; the youngest member of the family was Minnie (deceased), wife of Gus Gunderson, now residing at Grand Forks, North Dakota; two children died in early infancy.

Even S. Evenson received his education in the common schools of Deer Park, Wisconsin and in 1885 came to Underwood and secured employment as salesman in one of the local general stores, where he remained for some eight years. In 1905 the bank of Underwood was organized and Mr. Evenson was elected to the position of cashier, which he filled for some four years. He was active in the organization of the Park Region Telephone Company and acted as its treasurer until February of 1914, at which time he resigned. Mr. Evenson is independent in politics and takes considerable interest in local matters, having served as clerk of Sverdrup township for some years past. He is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America and also of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks.

On December 8, 1888, Even S. Evenson was united in marriage with Anna Gunderson, also a native of Norway, and a daughter of Ingebret and Marie Gunderson. They, too, were among the earliest settlers of this section, coming here in 1882. To Mr. and Mrs. Evenson have been born six children, of whom Edna, the eldest, is the wife of Edward E. Hanson, of Mackintosh, this state, and superintendent of that city's schools; Carl, who was educated in the Underwood schools, makes his home with his parents and is employed in the Farmers' Mercantile Corporation Store at Underwood; Hilda, a graduate of the Stillwater high school, is at home, as are also Arthur, Mildred and Nora.

On January 3, 1916, the Farmers' State Bank of Underwood opened its doors for business with Mr. Evenson as cashier. Since first coming to Underwood, Mr. Evenson has shown himself to be interested in all that concerns the proper development of the town and its kindred interests and has given generously of his time to bring about many improvements.

CHARLES ROLLA WRIGHT, SR.

There died on June 13, 1915, at Fergus Falls, this county, a splendid woman eighty-four years of age, who had enjoyed, during the course of her long life, a varied and interesting series of experiences, both in the staid and conservative East, where she was born, and in the frontier life of several Western states. The late Mrs. C. C. Clement's first husband was Charles Rolla Wright, Sr., father of the late Charles J. Wright, for years one of the most prominent citizens of Fergus Falls. Mrs. Clement, who was a most interesting conversationalist and who was possessed of a most remarkable memory, often entertained her friends with many interesting reminiscences of her early life.

Charles Rolla Wright, Sr., was born on February 17, 1825, at Williston, Vermont, and died in Forest City, Iowa, on September 13, 1859.

"My acquaintance with Charles Rolla Wright," said Mrs. C. C. Clement,

not long before her death. "began in the fall of 1847, when I was nearly sixteen years of age. He had just been graduated from the Highland Military School at Norwich, Vermont, and was engaged to teach a select school for advanced pupils in Enfield, New Hampshire. During the following winter he taught the village school, which I attended. During this time, while teaching, he studied law in the office of my uncle, Judge Westgate. When Mr. Wright's school closed for the season, he went to Orwell, Vermont, where his brother, Murray, lived and there he taught and studied. During a part of this time, he also worked in a telegraph office, which was considered in that time something new. His health, however, became impaired and he went to his home in West Milton, but continued the study of law with a Burlington lawyer. Finally, he was compelled to give up study altogether and he then turned his attention to the farm, which change proved of great benefit to his physical state. On August 27, 1851, he returned to Enfield and on the following day we were married.

"For a time we remained on one of the farms belonging to Mr. Wright's father, in West Milton, Vermont, and it was there that Charles J. was born, November 2, 1852, the date upon which Franklin Pierce was elected President of the United States. After farming for four years or more, Mr. Wright got the 'Western fever,' so I took our young son back to my old home, while my husband made the trip to Iowa. There he entered a tract of government land near Forest City and, in the spring of the following year, I joined him with our son. Our early experiences there would seem hard today. Father and son were much together and this companionship helped to make Charles J. the man he grew to be. Charles Rolla Wright was elected county surveyor and his brother, George B. Wright, came to Iowa to work for him.

"In the summer of 1859," continued Mrs. Clement, "Mr. Wright died during an epidemic of fever and I was left alone with our seven-year-old son. George B. Wright came to Forest City and taught school that winter, during which time he remained with us. Our affairs were finally arranged so that Charles J. and I could go back to New Hampshire in the spring. George B. Wright accompanied us as far as Chicago and, from Chicago, my sister, Hannah, Charles and I went on to New Hampshire, George B. going to Bloomington, Illinois, where not long afterward he was married to Serina Ames, the adopted daughter of Rev. Charles G. Ames, well known as pastor of the Unitarian church in Boston.

"A year or two later, George B. Wright and wife went to Minneapolis, where Mr. Wright pursued his profession as surveyor, and Charles and I returned to the West and made our home with them. We lived in Minne-

apolis, together until February 28, 1868, when I was married to C. C. Clement.

"While we lived in Minneapolis, Charles attended the schools there and afterward the schools at Winona and Hastings. He also frequently accompanied his Uncle George on surveying trips and spent some time in the surveyor-general's office in St. Paul before coming to Fergus Falls. When still in his teens, Charles corresponded for the *North Star*, the *Young Minnesotan* and *The Owl*, and at that time was a member of the Amateur Association of Journalists."

Thus closes this brief but interesting chapter of reminiscences in the life of a noble pioneer woman, whose personal history was so intimately identified with the rapid succession of events in this great Northwest country.

CHRISTIAN J. MOEN.

Christian J. Moen, born in Norway, February 29, 1864, son of John and Martene (Korsgaard) Moen, was the first of his family to come to this country. Both parents were natives of Norway, born at Thrystad Smaalenene, about six miles from Christiania. They married in their native home and the father turned to farming as the means of livelihood for his growing family. Christian J. Moen emigrated to America in 1882, and in 1889 the father and mother followed and joined him. They lived on a small farm of forty acres in section 36, of Sverdrup township, this county, and there both parents finished their lives and are buried in Sverdrup cemetery. Both were strong adherents to the Lutheran faith and were devoted to their family of six children. Anne, the eldest of the family, is the wife of P. C. Renfjord, of Fergus Falls; Louise is the widow of Ole O. Sjoldal and lives in Ada, this state, where her husband was for many years engaged in the hardware business, and at his death was succeeded by his three sons; Anton is a section foreman on the Northern Pacific railway and is located at Battle Lake, this state; Martin, who makes his home with Christian J., is a carpenter by trade and owns a farm in this vicinity; Hannah, wife of Carl Sundby, resides in Sverdrup township, where they are engaged in farming.

Christian J. Moen attended the public schools of his native land until the age of fourteen, when he took up part of the work of the family home under the direction of his father. Upon coming to this country in 1882, he located at Battle Lake, this state, and found employment with a section gang of the Northern Pacific railroad. A year later he was made foreman of his section gang, which position he held for eighteen years. Upon the organization of the Farmers' Mercantile Corporation in 1892,

he was made secretary, in recognition of the service he rendered as one of its organizers. He filled that position until 1900, when he became manager of the company, which position made such demands upon his time that he was forced to give up his railroad work. At that time the company rented the building which it occupied and since then has purchased the building in question and built an addition of equal size to the original portion. The business has increased to four times the volume handled in 1900, carrying a stock valued from eleven to fifteen thousand dollars. Mr. Moen is also a director of the Farmers' Elevator Company, is president of the Farmers' State Bank of Underwood and interested in the Co-operative Creamery at that place.

Mr. Moen owns a farm which lays at the outskirts of Underwood, a portion of it coming within the corporation limits. This farm he purchased in 1903 and it was formerly owned by his father-in-law, it having been their family homestead. This farm contains one hundred and sixty acres and is beautifully located on the shores of Bass lake. Mr. Moen rents the land for farming purposes, but keeps considerable stock himself on it.

In politics Mr. Moen is independent and has always been rather active in local affairs. For twelve years he acted as treasurer of Sverdrup township, prior to the incorporation of the village, and has been active in many ways since. His religious membership is held with the Lutheran church, and fraternally he is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America, acting as treasurer for that organization. Mr. Moen displays a commendable interest in all that makes for public welfare and the best advancement of the various phases of community life.

On October 25, 1885, Christian J. Moen was united in marriage with Christena Sjordal, who was born in Norway and brought to this country by her parents when a little girl of four or five years. Her parents are Ole T. and Guriana Sjordal, who were among the early settlers of Otter Tail county, where they homesteaded a farm. To Mr. and Mrs. Moen have been born ten children, the eldest of whom is Hans Emil, living in Fergus Falls, where he sells insurance; May is the wife of Arthur Olson, of Big Lake, this state; Gilmar O. resides at Bellingham, Washington, and is a traveling salesman; Carl J. lives at Fargo, North Dakota, where he is connected with the J. I. Case Thresher Company, acting as cashier of the Fargo office; William is assistant cashier in the same office; Ella, Ruth, Roy, Thelma and Stanton remain at home.

Mr. Moen has proven himself worthy of the many responsibilities which have fallen upon him since he became a citizen of this county, and in view of the exemplary manner in which he has discharged his various obligations he is eminently worthy of respect.

JACOB S. BIXBY.

Jacob S. Bixby, farmer and stockman of Dead Lake township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, is one of the representative agriculturists of the county. He was born on November 8, 1840, in Cabot, Vermont, and is the son of John and Malinda (Schagel) Bixby.

The paternal grandparents of Jacob S. Bixby were Theophilus and Anna (Fiske) Bixby, he a native of Germany and she of England. Theophilus Bixby, for forty years, was captain of a whaling vessel and had entered the service when a boy of fourteen years, being promoted from first mate to captain, on the death of his predecessor, at the age of eighteen years. After his immigration to America, he located in Salem, Massachusetts, afterward marrying and making his permanent home in that town. Anna (Fiske) Bixby, his wife, desirous of having her children know the love and companionship of a father, entreated him to resign the perils of ocean life for the pleasures of home, but imbued with the spirit which all sailors feel for the life of the sea, he wished to make one more trip before granting her wish. This would-be last cruise extended over a period of three years, finally resulting in poor returns and, determined to recoup his losses, another voyage was planned and executed, this time bringing with it the most unusual success. They found whales galore and, while Theophilus Bixby was not a professional harpooner, he narrowly escaped death in the attempt to harpoon a whale. Upon his return home, he removed to the state of Vermont, where the family settled on a farm near Fayston, and there he remained until his death. He served in the War of 1812. Theophilus and Anna (Fiske) Bixby were the parents of twelve children, all of whom are now deceased. Beside his four sons, William, George, John and Luther, he was the father of eight daughters.

The maternal grandparents of Jacob S. Bixby were Jacob and Polly Schagel, he a native of Germany and she a native of England. He immigrated to Canada when a young man and became paymaster, a position demanding great courage and efficiency. The money was carried in kegs and a large guard always accompanied him. After many years of loyal service to the army, he resigned and retired to private life and became engaged in agricultural pursuits. Polly Schagel was a native of England, removing to Canada when very young, and it was there that her marriage was solemnized. They were the parents of one son, Jacob, and eleven daughters. They remained in Canada until their deaths.

John Bixby, father of Jacob S. Bixby, was a millwright in his native state, and while there met and married Malinda Schagel, a native of Cushing, Quebec, Canada. He was engaged in the construction of mill machinery until his health became impaired and he was forced to retire from this work

at the age of forty years. Following his retirement, he engaged in farming and purchased land near Fayston, Vermont, cultivating that property until 1854, at which time he removed to Wisconsin and thence to Steele county, Minnesota, and settled on a homestead in Aurora township. The farm consisted of one hundred and sixty acres, and John Bixby continued to cultivate it until his death on January 15, 1890. Five years later his wife and beloved companion passed to her eternal rest on July 26, 1895. During life they had been respected members of the Methodist Episcopal church, and were the parents of five children: Jacob S., Harriette, Henry, George and Addie. Harriette became the wife of George Curtis and their home was for many years in Owatonna, Minnesota. Henry was a miner early in life, but later followed the vocation of farmer, in Montana, where his death occurred. George was a farmer in Minnesota and his death occurred in St. Paul. Addie became the wife of Warren Upham, of this county.

Jacob S. Bixby received his education in the schools of Fayston, Vermont, until the age of sixteen, at which time he removed to Eureka, Wisconsin, where he remained during the summer and then with his parents removed to Steele county, Minnesota, continuing his schooling for one term. In August, 1862, Jacob S. Bixby enlisted in Company A, Tenth Regiment, Minnesota Volunteer Infantry. He served with Sibley during the Indian campaign and then went south with his regiment, serving most of the time with the Sixteenth Army Corps. He was in sixteen regular battles besides numerous skirmishes, receiving one wound. He was honorably discharged in August, 1865, having served a few days over three years. The next year he married and settled on a homestead, which he improved and on which he resided until 1898. He then sold the farm and removed to Otter Tail county, Minnesota, where he purchased two hundred and twenty acres of unimproved land, located in Dead Lake township, on the south shore of Dead lake. A great deal of this land has been cleared and fifty acres are under cultivation. The products of this farm are Poland China hogs and high grade Galloway cattle, as well as general farming.

On November 29, 1866, Jacob S. Bixby was united in marriage to Ann Elizabeth Eichler, daughter of John and Christina Eichler, and a native of La Fayette, Onondaga county, New York. She died on March 24, 1879, and on November 10, 1880, Mr. Bixby was united in marriage to Gertrude Liverson, a native of Norway and daughter of Live and Sophia Liverson. To the first union of Jacob S. Bixby five children were born: Katie, who died in infancy; Lottie, who also died in infancy; Jennie, who married William Boyle, and later became the wife of Emil Erickson, died at the age of twenty-four years; Henry, a farmer living in Dead Lake township; Jessie, who became the wife of Reynold Zimmerman and now lives in Owatonna,

Minnesota. The names of the children born to the second union of Jacob S. Bixby are: John L., Jacob W., Lottie A., Abraham V., Isaac and Gertrude N. John L. follows the vocations of farming and school teaching and lives in Dead Lake township; Jacob W. is engaged in the same interests; Lottie died at the age of fourteen years; Abraham V. died at the age of thirteen; Isaac and Gertrude are at home. The parents of the second wife of Jacob S. Bixby, Live and Sophia Liveson, immigrated to America in 1872 and settled in Dodge county, where they remained until their deaths. Gertrude Liveson was born on March 3, 1856, in Norway.

At the age of twenty-one, Jacob S. Bixby became a licensed class leader of the Methodist Episcopal church, in which he has always been a member and active supporter, and for the past twelve years has been a licensed pastor for that denomination and has served the local congregation. Jacob S. Bixby is an "Abraham Lincoln Republican" and has been honored with nearly every office in the township, also serving his section of the country by acting as a delegate to the county conventions. He is interested in the creamery and the telephone companies of Richville, in which companies he is a stockholder.

John L. Bixby was born on December 26, 1882, in Steele county, Minnesota, the son of Jacob S. and Gertrude (Liveson) Bixby. He received his education in the public schools of his native town and later became a student in the Moorhead Normal School, for two years. After completing his education he engaged in teaching school, which he followed for a period of six years. About 1905 he purchased one hundred and six acres of land in section 34, in Dead Lake township, which he has improved with buildings and other things needful for the proper cultivation of same. He pursues general farming and stock-raising. Politically, John L. Bixby is an independent voter. He has served his fellow citizens in the capacity of justice of the peace and is at present serving as county assessor.

On June 1, 1910, John L. Bixby was united in marriage to Cora E. Davis, daughter of James and Eliza (Epler) Davis, and they are the parents of one child, Paul W., who was born on December 22, 1913.

Jacob W. Bixby, second son of Jacob S. Bixby, has also followed his father's example and taken up farming as his vocation in life. He was born on August 16, 1885, in Steele county, Minnesota, and received his education in the schools of Otter Tail county. He also attended the Moorhead Normal School, as did his brother, John L. Bixby, and began teaching school in 1910. In 1915 he purchased a farm of one hundred and fifteen acres, located in Amor township, this county, and has spent much of the time since in clearing and improving it.

For three years past, Jacob W. Bixby has acted as an agent of the

Waterman-Waterbury Supply Company, covering territory in Minnesota. Very active for the furtherance of all educational improvements he has served those interests as principal of the graded schools for a period of two years, and has discharged the duties connected with that office in a very able manner. He is a member and actively engaged in the work of the Consolidated School Principals Organization. He is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church and is much interested in all church affairs and lends his generous support to that denomination.

IVER O. GRINA.

Iver O. Grina, who has been a resident of Otter Tail county, Minnesota, for over forty years, has played a prominent part in the agricultural development of the state in which he resides. He was born in Hadeland, Norway, on the 1st of April, 1851, and is the son of Ole H. and Martha O. (Moger) Grina, natives of the same country. The parents of Iver O. Grina came to America in 1854, only a few years after their marriage. After crossing the Atlantic, a journey that covered a period of fifteen weeks, the couple took up their residence in Clayton county, Iowa, where for a short time Mr. Grina worked on the farms in that locality. He possessed a character which was eager to seize opportunities for advancement, and had only resided in Iowa a short while when he was able to buy a farm containing one hundred and sixty acres. On this farm he lived with his family twenty years and at the expiration of that time came to Otter Tail county, Minnesota, where he joined his son, Iver, who is the subject of this sketch.

In Norwegian Grove township Ole H. Grina bought two hundred and fifty acres of school land, thirty-four acres of which was in timber. While employed at the occupation of clearing the new tract of land Mr. Grina became ill and died. The first wife of Mr. Grina died in 1874, and he was married, secondly, to Betsey O. Hougvet, who has also passed away. By his first wife the following children were born into the Grina family: Hans, who before his death followed the occupation of a farmer in Trondhjem township; Ole, a retired farmer of Pelican Rapids; Iver O., the subject of this sketch; Peter, a retired farmer who resides in North Dakota; Martin, also a farmer of North Dakota; Ellen, who died in Iowa; Edward, who lives in North Dakota; Mary, who passed away in Iowa; Mary, who also died when young, in Iowa, and one who died when very small.

Iver O. Grina was educated in the public schools in Iowa, and was reared to the sturdy discipline of the Iowa farm. At the age of twenty-one years he came to Otter Tail county, Minnesota, where he settled in Trondhjem township, after purchasing the homestead owned by the Hans Broth-

ers. The land, which was only slightly improved, was located in section 21. After much time and labor spent in clearing and improving the land, Mr. Grina bought one hundred and twenty acres of railroad land adjoining the home place. In the fall of 1914 Mr. Grina sold his place in Trondhjem township and bought the homestead originally owned by his father in Norwegian Grove township. This farm has never been occupied by the subject of this sketch, but he rents it to his son, Joseph. Mr. Grina retired from active farm work in March of 1914 and moved to Pelican Rapids, where he has erected a thoroughly modern residence.

Mr. Grina is a man of broad understanding who has given his attention to civic affairs. In 1913 he helped in organizing the Erhard State Bank, in which he is a director. As an enthusiastic member of the Republican party he has served in the office of road supervisor and of clerk of the school district. He and his wife are members of the Lutheran church.

On the 17th of July, 1872, the marriage of Iver O. Grina to Olena L. Ohe took place. She was the daughter of Lars and Ingebor (Waterud) Ohe, among the earliest settlers of Erhard Grove township. Mrs. Grina passed away on the 22nd of February, 1914. She was the mother of the following children: Ole, who has lumber interests in Halstad, Minnesota; Lars, who is also interested in lumber, and who lives in Felton, Minnesota; Melvin, who deals in implements, hardware and lumber in Erhard; Conrad, who assists his brother, Melvin, at the Borup branch store; Joseph, who died in infancy; Joseph, who is a farmer on the place of his father; Inga and Theodore, who are occupied in the work for their brother, Melvin; Emma, the youngest child, is at home with her father.

ANDREW O. QUAM

Andrew O. Quam is one of the progressive agriculturists of Fergus Falls township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, who operate their holdings on a large scale, and his keen business ability and exceptionally pleasing personality have been dominant factors in his success. He is a native of Norway and his birth occurred on October 6, 1855, in Tronjam, Norway. He is the son of Ole and Johanna Quam, both natives of Norway. Ole Quam was a farmer, cattle dealer and general trader. In 1871 he immigrated to America with the intention of locating here but after a temporary location in Chicago, Illinois, he removed to Minneapolis, Minnesota, investigated the county and returned to his native land, content to remain in the land of his birth.

Andrew O. Quam received his preliminary education in the common schools in the land of his nativity, and studied geometry, surveying, engineering and general studies, under the tutelage of a Norwegian army officer.



MRS. AND MRS. ANDREW O. Q. TAM



He also studied English while in Norway and received a very good education. He immigrated to America in 1872 and engaged as a clerk in a grocery store in Minneapolis, Minnesota, attending school during the first winter. He then learned the painter's trade, under his uncle's instruction, and later was employed in the harvest fields. In 1874 he established a store, in partnership with his uncle, which he sold in the fall and removed to Chicago where he was employed as a dishwasher in a restaurant, for three dollars per week. Two months of this was night work. Soon after this experience, he established a small restaurant of his own which he operated on North Clark street, Chicago, Illinois, and later at 109 East Randolph street for five years. This place of business was on unclaimed property and was soon established after the famous Chicago fire. The undertaking proved to be a profitable one and he was soon doing business in a spacious building, which had been erected by the owner.

In 1880 Mr. Quam removed to Otter Tail county, Minnesota, after having made several thousand dollars, and purchased two hundred and seventy acres of land in Carlisle township. This was added to until he now owns eight hundred acres of well improved land in Fergus Falls and Carylisle townships.

Andrew O. Quam was united in marriage to Joanna Newhouse and they are the parents of the following children: Ole, Ingwall, James M., Julian E., Adeline, Josephine, Edith C., Mabel D. and Dwight L.; two infants are deceased. Andrew O. Quam is a trustee of the Methodist Episcopal church which he attends and is also clerk of the school board. Politically, he votes an independent ticket.

LUDWIG PILGER.

Ludwig Pilger was born in Prussia, Germany, May 16, 1844, the son of Ernest Pilger and wife, who were born in that province, where Ernest Pilger followed his trade as a weaver until, during an epidemic of cholera, he and his wife succumbed to this pestilence. Ernest Pilger and wife were the parents of the following children: Wilhelmina, who died when a child; Amelia, who married Ferdinand Vitholm and lives in the state of Nebraska; William, who came to America and afterwards became lost to the knowledge of his relatives; Ludwig, the subject of this sketch.

Following his education in the public schools of his native land, Ludwig Pilger worked for a time on a farm and then was employed in a brewery until about the year 1872, when he came to America and went to the state of Iowa, where he settled near Grundy City and there worked on a farm during the next seven years, after which, in the year 1882, came to the

state of Minnesota and bought one hundred and sixty acres of land in Otter Tail county, where he has since lived. On taking possession of his farm in Otter Tail county Ludwig Pilger found it necessary to clear the land of brush and timber and to replace an old log cabin with a more substantial building. At a later time this progressive farmer added a modern barn and other buildings to his conveniences until now the farm of Mr. Pilger is among the best of the community for general farming purposes.

During the year 1871, Ludwig Pilger was married to Dora Effald, who was a native of Prussia. To this marriage were born the following children: Ernest, who is a railway worker of Bluffton, Minnesota; William, who is a railroad worker of Bronson, Minnesota; Huldah, who married H. W. Kile, a farmer of North Dakota; France, a farmer of the state of North Dakota, and George and Otto, who live at home.

Ludwig Pilger in religious affiliation is of the Lutheran church. In politics, Mr. Pilger is a Republican, one who serves his party well in those efforts which are put forth for the general good of Otter Tail county.

ALBERT WIESE.

Albert Wiese, farmer and stockman of Gorman township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, was born on January 3, 1874, in Germany, the son of Fredrick and Henrietta (Flatau) Wiese, natives of Germany. Fredrick Wiese came to America in 1893, and located in this county, where he engaged in farming in Gorman township, where he now lives a retired life. Fredrick and Henrietta Wiese are the parents of seven children: Gusta, John, Albert, Minnie, Matilda, Amelia and Ida.

Following his education in the public schools of Germany, Albert Wiese came to America, in 1892, and located in Otter Tail county, Minnesota, where he engaged in farm work for some time. In 1904 he bought a farm in Gorman township, which he has greatly improved and to which he has added land until now he owns three hundred and sixty-five acres of land which he cultivates as a general farmer, together with the raising of considerable good grade live stock.

On May 13, 1898, Albert Wiese was married to Louise Flatau, a native of Germany, and to this marriage have been born the following children: Alma, Otto, Alfred, Herman, Theodore, Paul, Martha and Amanda. Albert Wiese and his family are active members of the German Lutheran church at Perham, Minnesota.

Albert Wiese has served as a trustee for the town of Luce, and has taken an important part in the business interests of the community, at the present time being a stockholder of the Luce Creamery Company, of Luce, Minnesota.

CARL K. PEDERSON.

Carl K. Pederson is a native of this county, having been born in Sverdrup township, March 18, 1876, son of Knud and Marit (Gulbranstad Datter Onstad) Pederson, the former born at Aaberg and the latter at Onstad, Valdres, Norway. They were friends from early life and were married in their native land, coming to this country in 1866. They located in Mower county, this state, where for some three years he worked at farm labor and other things, and in 1870 came to this county and settled on a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres in Sverdrup township. His farm was mostly wild land and he set about clearing it and getting it ready for the plow and also erected most of the buildings which are standing on the tract today. He purchased additional land from time to time until at his death, in November of 1903, he owned three hundred and twenty-eight acres. The mother died some years previous—in July of 1896, and the father never remarried. Knud Pederson was a man who took a most active interest in political affairs. Originally a member of the Farmers Alliance, he later became a Populist and was filling one office or another over a goodly stretch of years. He served as county commissioner of the third district for thirteen years in succession and filled many other local offices. In addition to this, he served two terms as a member of the state Legislature (1897-1901), and was always actively interested in the political issues of the day. Both Knud Pederson and his wife embraced the Lutheran faith (members of the Norwegian church) and were active in religious circles.

Carl K. Pederson is a member of a family of nine children, being the sixth child in order of birth. Peter, the eldest, is a farmer living on the old homestead; Edward died in 1902; Matilda lives in Seattle, Washington, the wife of Ferdinand De Flon; Dinah and Geline are both deceased; Gilbert is a farmer of this county, living about five miles north of Underwood; Clara lives in Oregon, the wife of Ole Nygaard, and Ella, the youngest of the family, is the wife of a Mr. Larson, and lives in Seattle, Washington. Carl K. Pederson received his education in the public schools of this county, attending district No. 5, in the little old log school house located on his father's farm. He was raised on the farm and after school days were over he followed that vocation until 1902, when he became a stockholder in the Farmers Mercantile Corporation and at the same time took a clerkship in the company's store under its manager, C. J. Moen, a sketch of whose life appears elsewhere in the pages of this book. This relationship continues to the present time and Mr. Pederson now holds a responsible position, having long since demonstrated the fact that he possesses those qualities which especially fit him to cater to the needs of the public. With his

brother, Peter, Mr. Pederson purchased the old homestead and together they do general farming and give especial attention to the raising of live stock for the market.

Mr. Pederson is independent in politics, but has never given the time to that phase of citizenship which his father gave. He is affiliated with the Modern Woodmen of America and both he and his wife hold their religious membership in the Norwegian Lutheran church. Mrs. Pederson, before her marriage in 1903, was Marie Nygaard, daughter of Lars and Ingeborg Nygaard, both natives of Norway, who came to this country in the early eighties, Marie being born not long after they settled in this country. Mr. and Mrs. Pederson have two children, Kenneth and Irvin. The family is considered among the representative families of this section and move in the best social circles. Mr. Pederson, because of his business connection, has a wide acquaintance throughout this part of the county and is universally liked.

NILS WILSON.

One of the citizens of Underwood, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, who has taken an active part in its civic life and is one of its leading business men, is Nils Wilson, the subject of this biographical sketch. Mr. Wilson was born in Denmark on January 15, 1866, son of Jens and Christina (Graveson) Wilson. Both parents were born near Aalborg, Denmark, and were reared there. All of the father's active years were given to the vocation of farming, and he is still living at the old home, at an advanced age, having been born in 1827. The mother has been dead for a number of years, having passed from this life in 1876, when about forty-six years old. The father has never remarried. Both were from earliest childhood members of the Lutheran church and so reared their family of five children. Nils is the fourth child in order of birth, the others being: Fredericka, wife of Jens C. Wesse, still living in Denmark, where Mr. Wesse is connected with the public schools, having the reputation of being an excellent teacher and active in school organization; Jens Christian, who emigrated to America in 1880 or 1881 and has never been heard from since the year 1898; Oscar, who followed Jens to this country about a year later and is living on his farm in Otter Tail county; and Anna, the youngest of the family, who is the widow of a Mr. Larson and still lives in her native land.

Nils Wilson came to America in 1888 and in the spring of that year located in Otter Tail county, where for some ten or twelve years he hired out to farm labor. He then became connected with the Andrews-Gates Grain Company, of Minneapolis, being their manager and local representa-

tive for some fourteen years. In the meantime (about 1898) Mr. Wilson began to deal in feed on his own account. For thirty-four dollars he purchased a lot in Underwood with a house on it which cost him twenty-five dollars, and in that small building, size twelve by fourteen feet, he conducted his business for some time. He prospered in his undertaking and was forced to enlarge his building in 1900, 1901 and 1903, and now has a building twenty-four by one hundred and ten feet, and since 1912 has been forced to give his entire attention to his private business. He is interested in the general advancement of the community and was one of the organizers of the Otter Tail County Co-operative Company, having served as director since its organization.

Mr. Wilson is a Republican in politics and ever since the incorporation of the town of Underwood, December 23, 1912, he has served as president of the village. For the past five years he has been treasurer of the local school board and in other ways has given evidence of the wholesome interest he feels in the proper growth of the community. Mr. Wilson holds his fraternal affiliation with the Modern Woodmen of America and also with the Danish Brotherhood. Mr. Wilson has never married. An honorable man in all the affairs of life, he is well deserving of the esteem in which he is held by all who know him.

ERIC P. LING.

Eric P. Ling was born in Sweden on February 16, 1862, son of Eric Olson and Ingeborg Nelson. Both parents were also natives of Sweden and passed their entire lives there. They were landowners and farmers and lived quiet and retired lives. Both were members of the Swedish Lutheran church and highly esteemed in every particular.

Mr. Ling is one of a family of five children: Nils, the eldest remaining in Sweden, where he is engaged in farming; John lives at Kelsey, this state, as does also Anna; Bertha died in her native land, the wife of Peter Newkvist. Mr. Ling was educated in the public schools near his home and emigrated to America in 1894, settling first in southern Minnesota. From there he went to Duluth, where he worked at the carpenter's trade for some time and in 1910 came to his farm of eighty acres in Dane Prairie township, Otter Tail county, where he has since made his home. Since taking possession of the farm he has made many improvements. He has erected a seventy-two foot barn and has otherwise added to the general appearance of the place. In addition to his farming, he is a breeder of mixed stock for the market and is universally successful in whatever he undertakes. Mr. Ling endorses the principles of the Republican party, although he has never taken especial interest in such matters.

Eric P. Ling was married in 1906 to Selma Haag, also a native of Sweden, and her death occurred in October of 1910. She left two young children, Nellie and Arthur, and these little ones Mr. Ling is worthily trying to properly guide through the perilous years of childhood. Mr. Ling has the respect of the entire community, a fitting tribute to his worthy characteristics.

F. E. SALOMONSEN.

F. E. Salomonsen, cashier of the First State Bank, of Underwood, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, is recognized as one of the leading business men of that locality. In 1907 Mr. Salomonsen first became connected with the bank in question, known at that time as the Bank of Underwood, and it was then capitalized at five thousand dollars. On reorganization it was given the name by which it is now known and the capital stock increased to ten thousand dollars. It has an average of six hundred depositors, placing within its keeping one hundred and seventy thousand dollars, with a capital and surplus of nineteen thousand dollars. Charles D. Wright is president of the organization; E. A. Jewett, vice-president, and Mr. Salomonsen is cashier. The banking business now occupies its own building, erected in 1914, and designed especially to meet the needs of the business.

Mr. Salomonsen is a native of Denmark, born in the city of Copenhagen on March 22, 1872, son of John A. and Bina Salomonsen, both of whom were born in Sweden. While Mr. Salomonsen's parents were yet children they were taken to Denmark by their respective parents, where they grew to maturity and were married. They made their first home in Copenhagen, where the father was engaged in managing a dray line, at which he continued for a number of years. He was successful in his business and in later life purchased a farm near his old home in Sweden, where both are living at the present time. They are members of the Lutheran church and the parents of a family of four children, Mr. Salomonsen being the only one of the family who has come to America. He is the second child of the family, the first and third having died in infancy. The youngest is a sister, Amanda, who still remains at home with her parents.

Mr. Salomonsen received his education in the Burger pay schools of Copenhagen and at the age of fourteen years was apprenticed to the carpenter trade. He mastered this and worked at it for a time in his old home previous to coming to America in 1892. He came directly to this state and settled for a time at Pelican Rapids and later at Fergus Falls, in both places following his trade. At the latter place he became foreman for John Lauritzen, which position he filled for some three and one-half years. In

1899 he entered into a partnership with W. L. Winslow and engaged in the retail lumber business at Underwood. That relationship lasted for some eighteen months, when both sold out to M. T. McMahon, of Fergus Falls, and Mr. Salomonsen managed the business for that gentleman for some six and one-half years. Then, in 1907, followed his connection with the bank, as first stated, to which business he now gives his undivided attention.

F. E. Salomonsen was married in 1900 to Ellen M. Erickson, who was born in Sweden, daughter of Charles Erickson, of Pelican Rapids. To this union a family of five has been born, namely: Elmer F., Clarence E., Vernon E. (deceased), Liles G. and Esmer H. Both Mr. and Mrs. Salomonsen and wife are members of the Lutheran church, and he is independent in politics. He takes more than a passing interest in local political matters and has filled various local offices, among them being justice of the peace. Mr. Salomonsen can well boast the title of "self-made man," and his way in life is such as to win the confidence and regard of both business associates and personal friends.

OLE AXNESS.

Although the parents of Ole Axness were born and married in Norway, he was born in America on December 7, 1871, at Norwegian Grove township, Otter Tail county. His father and mother, M. O. and Herbor (Moe) Axness, braved the sea voyage necessary to bring them to America in 1869, and immediately established their new home in Fillmore county, Minnesota. Today they are living on the same farm in Norwegian Grove township which they occupied in the spring of 1871. On these two hundred acres, which Mr. Axness has improved, he has made his living by general farming. He and his wife are prominent members of the North Emmanuel church. Their home has been blessed by the birth of six children, namely: Ole, whose history is briefly presented here; Nels, Julius, Melvin, Bernard and Hilda.

Ole Axness was educated in the common schools and the high school at Pelican Rapids, and was a student in the Lutheran College at Fergus Falls during the first year of that institution's existence. Ambitious to acquire a profession, he then went to the Minnesota Institute of Pharmacy, located at Minneapolis. At that time this was the only school of its kind north of Chicago. After graduating from this institution in 1892, Mr. Axness worked for four years each in Minneapolis and Fergus Falls, after which he went into business for himself in Pelican Rapids, where he still lives and is a well-known druggist.

The marriage of Ole Axness and Rhoda Linder was solemnized in

1905. Mrs. Axness, a native of Norway, is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Linder. On coming with them to America she located in Pelican Rapids, where she met and married Mr. Axness. Their home has been blessed by the birth of four children, namely: Clarice, Clayton, Royland and Venice.

Mr. and Mrs. Axness are united with the Lutheran church. Mr. Axness believes in the effectiveness of social organization, and is active in both the Knights of the Maccabees and Knights of Pythias. His long residence and his standing in the community as a business man entitle him to a place among those who represent commercial interests in this township. He has always been ready to support the movements which he considered were conducive to the general welfare.

O. A. E. BLYBERG.

When Mr. Blyberg first came to Pelican Rapids he found the village consisting of a few groups of small houses inhabited by men and women not afraid to risk their lives to protect their newly established homes. Mr. Blyberg joined with them, and added to the wealth of the village by starting a general merchandise store. Coming with his father, Carl Blyberg, from Norway in 1865, he had located at North McGregor, Iowa, at the age of fifteen, having been born in 1850. From his sixth year he had attended school in his native country, where his mother, Louise Blyberg, died after her husband and son emigrated to America. The father at first was compelled to work at anything he could find todo, and in 1868 O. A. E. Blyberg began a three years' residence in Sauk Center, Minnesota, where he was employed as a clerk. The same year his father located in St. Olaf township, Otter Tail county, where he homesteaded a quarter section of land and remained three years. He then went to Becker county, in the same state, pre-empting a claim, but he died soon after, in the year 1877.

In 1871 the younger Mr. Blyberg left Sauk Center in order to live in Pelican Rapids, where he became a dealer in general merchandise, under the firm name of Pendergast & Blyberg, a partnership that lasted for eight years. In 1881 the company became known as Blyberg & Haugen. This partnership was dissolved in 1908, when Mr. Blyberg retired from mercantile pursuits. During his career as a merchant in Pelican Rapids, Mr. Blyberg also had business interests in a number of other places, where he was equally successful. But he was the first merchant in Pelican Rapids.

The marriage of O. A. E. Blyberg and Anna G. Olson was solemnized in 1873, Mrs. Elyberg being a native of Wisconsin, and a daughter of Peter Olson. Their first-born, a daughter named Laura, is deceased; the younger

daughter, Lottie M., became the wife of C. D. Haugen, of Pelican Rapids. Mr. Blyberg is a valued member of the Norwegian Lutheran Synodical church in whose welfare and work he has been actively interested for many years, as was also Mrs. Blyberg. Mrs. Blyberg died on January 5, 1905.

Among the public offices held by Mr. Blyberg is that of justice of the peace, he being the first man to hold that office in Pelican Rapids. The term extended from 1871 to 1874. He was at one time president of the village council. Mr. Blyberg is known for miles around for his sincere interest in public affairs, his business integrity and his upright character.

CHARLES R. FRAZEE.

Randolph L. Frazee, the father of the subject of this sketch, who established the Frazee family in Otter Tail county, was born in Vinton county, Ohio, on July 3, 1841, and as a young man followed the occupation of a farmer in the state where he was born. He came to Minnesota in 1866, where for a short time he stopped in St. Cloud. In 1868 he came to Otter Tail county, and settled in Ottertail, when the place just mentioned was a village, whose inhabitants lived in tents. In Ottertail village, Randolph Frazee built the first saw- and grist-mill ever known in the place. After a few years the railroad, which was being put through that section of the county, failed to take account of Ottertail village as a possible station, and Mr. Frazee, on account of better business possibilities, was obliged to move his mill to Frazee's mills (now New York Mills), stationed on the Northern Pacific railroad. From the Frazee mill was furnished the first bridge material used by Northern Pacific railroad in Minnesota.

In 1872, Randolph Frazee sold his interest in Frazee mills and moved to Detroit, Minnesota, where he lived just one year. Upon returning to Otter Tail county, he bought the water rights of the town now named Frazee. At this place he built a saw-mill and also a flour-mill. After establishing a blacksmith shop, a general store and the two mills, Mr. Frazee found it impossible to persuade the railroad officials to move the railroad station from Hobart, where it was then located, to Frazee. However, he took the matter into his own hands, by persuading the train crew to accompany him to Hobart one night, where they loaded the depot on a flat car and brought it to Frazee. In 1890, Mr. Frazee moved to Minneapolis, where he resided for three years. During that time he built the first concrete elevator ever erected there. From there he came to Pelican Rapids, where he had purchased the water rights of the place about 1874. In this location he built the Frazee mill and elevator. In 1882, Mr. Frazee established the bank of Pelican Rapids and also the Riverside Bank, which was reorganized into the

First National Bank in 1902, with Mr. Frazee as president. At the time of his death, which occurred in 1906, he was also president of the Great Eastern Elevator Company, of Minneapolis.

Randolph Frazee married Mary Brant, a native of Germany, and to their union the following children were born: Charles, the subject of this sketch; Mary A.; W. E.; Harry E.; Paul C. and Cora. In his political relations, Mr. Frazee gave support to the Democratic party.

Charles Frazee was born in Richland county, Ohio, on May 21, 1865. He was educated by a tutor and received private instruction in the early days of his boyhood in Frazee. From 1879 to 1883, he attended school at Faribault, Minnesota, where he was a student in the Shattuck mill school. Upon completing his education, Charles Frazee came to Pelican Rapids as bookkeeper in his father's mill. He continued at this employment for three years and at the end of that time he went to Twin Valley, Minnesota, where he conducted a general store and a drug store until 1890, when he returned to Pelican Rapids. He remained there, working in his father's mill until 1895, when he was appointed postmaster at Pelican Rapids, a position he still retains.

Charles Frazee has established himself in many lines of business, and in each field of endeavor he has met with unusual success. In December, 1912, he established the Pelican Rapids State Bank, of which he is now president. He is also president of the Frazee Brothers Company and holds the office of secretary in the Frazee Real Estate Company, of Pelican Rapids.

On August 20, 1887, Charles Frazee and Glissie Kinney were united in marriage. The children born to Mr. and Mrs. Frazee are, Wilfred K., Ethel, Kathleen and Charles R., Jr. The members of the Frazee family attend religious services at the Episcopal church, of which they are members. Mr. Frazee, in his political relations, is a Democrat. Fraternally, he is associated with the Knights of Pythias.

P. C. FRAZEE.

A career of constant application to business interests and consecutive industry has been that of P. C. Frazee, whose family carries with it prestige and honor in Otter Tail county, Minnesota. The Frazee family, which was founded in this community in 1868, was established by Randolph Frazee, a native of Vinton county, Ohio, who is the father of the subject of this sketch.

P. C. Frazee was born in Frazee City, Becker county, Minnesota, on April 13, 1875. He received his early education in the common schools of

Frazee, and in 1886 entered the Bishop Whipple school, at Moorhead. Upon completing the course in this school he attended the Moorhead Normal school from 1888 to 1889, and in the Minneapolis center high school, from 1890 until 1894, he received his high school training.

P. C. Frazee began his business career the year he left school, when he returned to Pelican Rapids and was employed by his father in the Frazee mill. In 1895 he went to Staples, where he entered the employment of the Northern Pacific railroad, as a fireman. He remained at this occupation until 1898, when he left for California, and in that section of the country, worked for the Southern Pacific railroad. He returned to Pelican Rapids, where until the fall of 1909, he worked in his father's mill. Since 1909, Mr. Frazee has been interested in real estate, loans and fire insurance and has built up an extensive business in this line. He is president and treasurer of the Frazee Estate Company, and secretary and treasurer of the Frazee Brothers Company.

On July 4, 1900, the marriage of P. C. Frazee to Flora M. Cole was celebrated. The following children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Frazee: Dortha, Paul, Merle, Ralph and Louise. In lodge affairs Mr. Frazee is affiliated with the Masonic fraternity.

REV. ELLEND J. OVRI.

From earliest historical time, the place of the clergyman in the community has been one of influence and power. Of this type is Ellend J. Ovri, of Pelican Rapids, Minnesota, a man and a minister who, because of his work among the people of Pelican township, and among the people of Otter Tail county, has won the esteem and love, not only of the communicants of his own church, but among all the people with whom he is associated, or thrown in contact.

Ellend J. Ovri, the honored minister of the Norwegian Lutheran church at Pelican Rapids, Otter Tail county, was born in Norway on January 25, 1860, the son of John A. and Martha (Stadheim) Ovri, who were born in Norway, in which country they lived until the year 1864, and then came to America, locating in Freeborn county, Minnesota, where John A. Ovri homesteaded a farm on which he and his wife lived for the remainder of their days.

Ellend J. Ovri received his early education in the public schools of Freeborn county, Minnesota, after which he became a student at the Norwegian Lutheran College, of Decorah, Iowa, from which he was graduated in the year 1886; he then studied theology for two years at Madison, Wisconsin, and for one year at Minneapolis, which was known as the Lutheran Seminary.

Following his graduation and ordination as a minister of the Norwegian Lutheran church, the Rev. Ellend J. Ovri, came to the town of Pelican Rapids, Minnesota, to accept his first call at the local Ringsaker Norwegian Lutheran church and adjacent congregations, on August 4, 1889, since which time the Rev. Mr. Ovri has served the people of his church and of the community, in a most helpful manner.

On September 12, 1894, the Rev. Ellend J. Ovri, was married to Christine Haugen, the daughter of N. N. Haugen, of Pelican Rapids, and to this marriage has been born one son, Norman, on July 2, 1899.

During his residence and service as a minister in the town of Pelican Rapids, Minnesota, the Rev. Ellend J. Ovri, has been of much value to the community, not only with his ministrations and his teachings, but as a man and as a citizen, the Rev. Mr. Ovri has taken an influential position in those efforts for a better and more advanced life among the people of the town and township.

OLE G. HELSETH.

To possess one of the finest farms in a neighborhood famed for its good farms, is the good fortune of Ole G. Helseth, a native of Norway, who was born on October 11, 1849. His parents lived and died in the country of his birth.

Mr. Helseth received a technical education. After attending the common schools of Norway from his ninth to his fifteenth year, he went to the Hedemarken Amts Landbrugsskole, an agricultural school, which he attended from 1868 to 1870 and graduated. The following ten years he engaged in agricultural pursuits and then left his native land for America, coming direct to this county. Here, however, for the next three years he worked in the capacity of carpenter in the vicinity of Pelican Rapids, having learned the carpenter's trade in Norway. In 1883 he returned to his original occupation and purchased one hundred and twenty acres in Norwegian Grove township, which was state university land and was uncultivated. He later added forty acres of cultivated land and made extensive improvements on the entire tract. Here he lived and worked as a general farmer until 1913, when his success enabled him to retire and to live in Pelican Rapids. For the past four years he has been vice-president of the Pelican Rapids Telephone Company and was an organizer of the Farmers Elevator Company. For twenty years he held a township office in Norwegian Grove township.

Mr. Helseth's marriage to Alma Anderson, a native of Norway, took place in 1881. Five children have blessed this union. These are, Martin,

Agnes, Oscar, Edwin and Sophia. Martin is a farmer of Burke county, North Dakota; Agnes is now Mrs. I. B. Rossum, and she and her husband live on her father's farm, which they bought; Oscar and his brother, Edwin, are partners, living on a farm in Sheridan county, Montana; Sophia is Mrs. Edwin Colnes, the wife of a farmer living in Saskatchewan, Canada. Mr. and Mrs. Helseth are prominent members of the Norwegian Synodical church. Mr. Helseth, who has attracted many friends, and whose upright life has won general respect, is one of this county's best known agriculturists.

JOHN M. RANGER.

Although a native of Vermont, and of English parentage, the subject of this sketch has developed into a thoroughbred middle westerner, where his efforts have been crowned with more than ordinary success. Mr. Ranger, whose resourcefulness stands out in the following sketch, has amply demonstrated a claim to be mentioned as a leading citizen of Pelican Rapids.

John M. Ranger, contractor, Pelican Rapids, Otter Tail county, was born on April 28, 1854, in Vermont, and is a son of James S. and Lucy F. (Morse) Ranger. James S. Ranger, father of John M., was born in 1820, in England, and came with his parents to America in 1823, locating in Orleans county, Vermont, where he received his education. As a young man, he followed the vocation of a sawyer, and later engaged his services in a sash and door factory. At the age of twenty-seven years, he came to Wisconsin, locating at Horicon, Dodge county, where he followed agriculture for three years. He served in the Civil War in Company C, Twenty-ninth Wisconsin Infantry, remaining out three years, during which time he participated in all the battles of his regiment. After the war he returned to Horicon, and soon afterward settled at Janesville, Wisconsin, where he lived five years, and then moved to Chicago, where he was employed in a planing-mill. Two years later he came to Lyon county, Minnesota, near Marshall, and took up a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres, living there five years, and in 1882, he came to Otter Tail county, and located near Pelican Rapids, where he farmed for the remainder of his active life. The children born to James S., and Lucy F. (Morse) Ranger, were: Jennie, John M. and William.

John M. Ranger received his early education at the public schools of Janesville, Wisconsin, and later, in 1872, attended the high school at that place. As a young man, he learned the machinist's trade, which he followed at Janesville and Chicago. In 1882 he came to Otter Tail county, where he took up a homestead in Lida township, consisting of one hundred and

sixty acres, on which he put all the improvements, including good and suitable buildings of every description, and while following his agricultural pursuits, Mr. Ranger also worked for the Great Northern railroad, as timber inspector. In 1901, he came to Pelican Rapids, where he built a planing-mill, which he sold about seven years later, in 1908, since which time he has been a contractor in concrete work, in addition to which he owns a fine farm of one hundred acres in Lida township. Politically, Mr. Ranger is in sympathy with the policies of the Republican party, and has taken an active interest in local politics, holding the office of township assessor for about ten years, and has been assessor for the village of Pelican Rapids for five years. He also served on the school board during the entire time he lived in Lida township.

John M. Ranger was united in marriage to Minnie J. Herrman, by whom he has had the following children: Merton, Lester, Jennie, Harry, Earl, John, William, Violet and Donald.

Mr. Ranger is a man in whom everyone has confidence, and one true to every trust reposed in him.

HARRY E. FRAZEE.

Harry E. Frazee was born in New York Mills, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, on January 18, 1873. He is the son of Randolph L. and Mary (Brant) Frazee, the former was a native of Vinton county, Ohio, and the latter was born in Germany. Randolph Frazee was looked upon as one of the most prominent men of his time, in the county in which he resided. Having played a part in the very beginning of community life around Pelican Rapids, he became widely known throughout that section of the state which marked the scene of his endeavors.

The educational training of Harry E. Frazee was begun in the common schools of Frazee City. Later, he attended the Bishop Whipple school at Moorhead, Minnesota, from 1885 until 1888. From 1888 to 1890, he took a course at the Moorhead Normal school, and after leaving that institution, took some work in the high school at Minneapolis, where he remained only a short time. In June, 1891, he joined his father in Pelican Rapids, where he became an assistant in the Frazee mill of that place. Since that time his interest in the mill has never abated. In 1897, Harry E. Frazee, in partnership with his brother, P. C. Frazee, leased the mill belonging to their father for a period of one year. At the end of that time the father turned over the ownership and management of the mill to these two sons. In 1908, Harry Frazee bought from his brother, P. C. Frazee, the latter's share in the business, and since that time has been sole owner and operator of the

concern. Mr. Frazee handles chiefly, flour, feed and grain, and he is also interested in coal. Mr. Frazee is a man of rare business ability, of broad judgment and progressive spirit, and his success in business has been due chiefly to habits of thrift, industry and application to duty.

In June, 1909, Harry Frazee was united in marriage to Susie A. Swien, a native of Northfield and the daughter of John Swien. Mr. and Mrs. Frazee are the parents of the following children: Robert E., Douglas L., and Harold E. In the social life of Pelican Rapids, Mrs. Frazee has also played a part. Mr. Frazee is fraternally affiliated with the Ancient Order of United Workmen, and also holds membership in the Elks lodge, at Fergus Falls.

NELS W. NELSON.

To the combined efforts of the representative and progressive business men, is the success of a community due, and to this class belongs the subject of this sketch.

Nels W. Nelson, clothing merchant, Pelican Rapids, Otter Tail county, was born March 13, 1864, at Decorah, Iowa, and is a son of Knute and Gunel (Holen) Nelson. His education was obtained at the public schools of Ridgeway, Iowa, where he lived with his grandfather Nelson, assisting him on the farm. In 1884, he went to South Dakota, engaging his services as a clerk in a country store. In 1887 he went to Dell Rapids, South Dakota, where he clerked for about eleven years, and in the fall of 1902, he came to Pelican Rapids, and on October 17, of that year, he opened a clothing store, in which business he is still engaged.

Knute Nelson, father of Nels W., was born in Norway, as was also his wife, Gunel Holen. He was educated in the public schools of Norway, and came to America in 1859, locating for one year at Decorah, Iowa. In 1860, he moved to Rushford, Minnesota, where he spent the remainder of his life. About 1866, the cholera struck Rushford, and Mr. Nelson's brother, his wife, eldest daughter and youngest son, all died within three weeks. To Knute and Gunel (Holen) Nelson were born the following children: Lars, Martha, deceased; Bertha, Nels W., and Andrew, deceased.

Nels W. Nelson was united in marriage, November 15, 1893, to Carrie Blanes, to which union have been born three children, Guy, Ferdinand, and Cathleen.

Mr. Nelson is an intelligent, wide-awake merchant, and a pleasant man to meet, to which characteristic is largely due his business success. His reputation for square dealing has also had its share in building up his business.

ALFRED K. BONDY.

Although not an old man in years, the gentleman whose life record is herein outlined has stamped his individuality upon the locality in which he resides in no uncertain manner, being a true type of the progressive and hustling American business man. The success attained by Alfred K. Bondy in his business affairs has been due much to his steady persistence, stern integrity and excellent judgment, qualities which have also won for him the confidence and esteem of the public to a marked degree. Personally, he is genial and friendly in his relations with others and has a wide acquaintance.

Alfred K. Bondy was born on May 3, 1882, in Otter Tail county, Minnesota, and is the son of Knut W. and Anna Gurie (Osmundeson) Bondy, both of whom were natives of Norway, they having come to America in an early day and were married in Rich county, Minnesota. The elder Mr. Bondy changed his name from "Bonde" to "Bondy" after coming to America, to avoid confusion with many other settlers by the former name. He was a man of much force and character and attained considerable prominence in his community, having been a member of the state board of equalization and a member of the state Legislature, which positions he filled with credit to himself and with entire satisfaction to the people he represented.

Alfred K. Bondy, as a young boy, developed a desire for an education and after completing his common school course in Battle Lake he entered the Park Region Lutheran College where he finished the course in commercial work.

At the age of twenty Mr. Bondy engaged in business for himself as a meat merchant and the buying and selling of live stock, in which business he was successful. In 1910 he became associated with the Independent Silo and Milking Machine Company, of St. Paul. In this work he has advanced through the various stages of development, until he is at present the state representative for the company with offices in St. Paul. His work has been most satisfactory to the company and his advancement has been the result of diligent and conscientious desires to make good for the company and himself.

On November 28, 1907, Alfred K. Bondy was married to Geneva Berge, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George J. Berge, of Fergus Falls, Minnesota. They are the parents of one child, Gordon F. Mr. and Mrs. Bondy are loyal to the interests of their home community and take an active interest in all that tends to the betterment of the moral and social conditions of the locality. They are public spirited and their efforts are manifested in many enterprises in which they are interested. Mr. and Mrs. Bondy are active and influential members of the Lutheran church, taking much interest in the activities of the various departments.



ALFRED K. BONDY.

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Fraternally, Mr. Bondy is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and the Modern Woodmen of America at Battle Lake, and of the Elks at Fergus Falls. Mr. Bondy is progressive and active in all his work and the organizations to which he is identified are much benefited by his wise, business like and prudent counsel.

MELVIN LEONARD.

The sketch here presented is that of an honored veteran of the Civil War, in addition to which he has long been known as one of the public-spirited and successful men of Pelican Rapids, Otter Tail county.

Melvin Leonard, farmer and Standard Oil agent, Pelican Rapids, was born on October 11, 1843, at Lexington, Somerset county, Maine, and is a son of Evander W., and Emelie (Mariah) Leonard. His early education was received in the public schools of Maine, and he later attended the public schools in Juneau county, Wisconsin, where he moved with his parents in 1860. As a young man, he began farming for himself, and in December, 1863, he went to the Civil War in Company F, Thirty-fifth Regiment, Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, remaining out until the close of the war, and participating in all the battles of his regiment, the hottest of which was the siege of Spanish Fort. He went through without being wounded at any time, but was laid up for two months with the fever at the Marine hospital at New Orleans. After the close of the war, Mr. Leonard returned to his farming interests in Juneau county, Wisconsin, coming to Otter Tail county in November, 1874, and locating at Pelican Rapids, where he took up a homestead of eighty acres in Pelican township, section 22, to which he later added eighty acres, adjoining, all of which he improved and lived on for many years, finally selling it in 1895. He has owned two farms since that time, and is now engaged in farming, in addition to holding the agency for the Standard Oil Company, at Pelican Rapids, which management he has had since 1899. Politically, his support is given to the Republican party, in the local politics of which he has had an active interest, serving for a term as commissioner of Otter Tail county, and many years on the village board, as well as officiating as a member of the school board for several terms.

Evander W., and Emelie (Mariah) Leonard, parents of our subject, were both natives of Maine. Mr. Leonard followed the mercantile business nearly all his life. In 1860, he came to Juneau county, Wisconsin, settling at Mauston, where he opened and conducted the drug business for about sixteen years. About 1876, he came to Pelican Rapids, where he also opened a drug store, and served as county surveyor for about four years.

Melvin Leonard was united in marriage, in 1868, to Sarah J. Dibble, which union has been blest with three children, Bertha Lee; Myrtie, and B. F. Mr. Leonard is a man on whom the citizens of his community have always been able to rely, having his support in any movement for the advancement of moral and educational welfare.

WILLIAM E. INGALLS.

William E. Ingalls, retired merchant and farmer, Pelican Rapids, was born on April 10, 1852, in Columbia county, Wisconsin, and is a son of J. B. and Julia A. (Robinson) Ingalls. His opportunities for an education were limited. As a young man he was employed on a farm and later learned the blacksmith trade. About 1880 he came to Pelican Rapids, Otter Tail county, where he built a blacksmith shop, following that trade until about 1892, during which time he had bought a farm of one hundred and sixty acres in section 34, in Pelican township, on which he put all the improvements. Mr. Ingalls gave up his blacksmith trade, and grubbed and farmed his place for about five years, at the end of which time he moved to Ackley and engaged in the general mercantile business for five and a half years. Giving up this business, he went to Canada to look the country over, and on his return, he built a store at Spooner, Minnesota. The opportunities offered in Canada appealed to him, and he returned there, taking up a half section, which he still owns and on which he has put all the improvements, including suitable buildings of every description. Politically, Mr. Ingalls has always given his support to the Republican party, and has been actively interested in local politics, holding the office of village marshal for one term. His wife is a member of the Congregational church. Fraternally, he is a member of the Masonic lodge, the Elks, at Fergus Falls and the Knights of Pythias, at Pelican Rapids.

J. B. Ingalls, father of William E., was born at Cleveland, Ohio, and his wife, Julia A. (Robison) Ingalls, was born in the state of New York. Mr. Ingalls was educated at the public schools of Cleveland, and as a young man he learned the jeweler's trade. After leaving Cleveland, he went to Wisconsin and followed farming for ten or twelve years, just north of Portage, after which he moved to Trenealeau, where he again entered the jeweler's business, which he followed the remainder of his life. To J. B. and Julia A. (Robison) Ingalls were born nine children, Laurette L., Luther L., Joshua E., William E., Eva, Eri, Alfred E., Frank A. and Julian M. Religiously, Mr. Ingalls was a Seventh-Day Adventist.

William E. Ingalls was united in marriage, November 4, 1876, to Alice Sanderson, daughter of Cyrus L. and Phoebe J. (Weston) Sanderson.

Alice Sanderson was born on October 17, 1858. This union has been blest with one daughter, Ada, who became the wife of Frank Leonard, and is the mother of two children, Scott C., and Zelda L. Scott C. Leonard has been adopted by his grandparents, who think and speak of him as if he were their own child. Cyrus L. and Phoebe J. (Weston) Sanderson were the parents of four children, Eva S., Alice (Ingalls), Georgia and Hester L.

NELS LANGSJOEN.

Nels Langsjoen received his early education in the common schools of township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, June 3, 1884, the son of Peder and Gertrude Svendsen, mother of the subject of this sketch, is the daughter of Langsjoen was a farmer until the year 1880, when he came to America and three years later was married to Gertrude Svendsen, after which he operated the Svendsen farm, engaging in general farming and stock raising. Gertrude (Svendsen) Langsjoen, who were natives of Norway, where Peder Nels Svendsen and wife, Sigrid, who in the year 1871, left their native home in Norway and came to America, locating on a place of one hundred and thirty-five acres which Nels Svendsen homesteaded in St. Olaf township, this county. Two years following his settlement in Otter Tail county, the elder Svendsen met a tragic death in the timber land of his locality, as a result of which his widow was left with the care of four children: Sven, who died at the age of about fifteen years; Gertrude, mother of the subject of this sketch; Carrie and Nilsine Nels who are deceased. With much effort and care the widow of Nels Svendsen succeeded in rearing her children, giving them a good home and providing for their needs. She died on September 12, 1915. To the marriage of Peder and Gertrude Langsjoen were born the following children: Nels, the subject of this sketch; Serena, Caroline, Sven, Jacob, Pernille, who died in 1908; Liv Ottelia, George Julius and Carrie Eleonora.

Nels Langsjoen was born on the old Svendsen homestead, in St. Olaf St. Olaf township, Otter Tail county, after which he attended Northwestern College, at Fergus Falls, graduating from that school in the year 1906. In 1911 he received his degree as Bachelor of Arts from the Gustavus Adolphus College, at St. Peter, Minnesota, later during the year 1915, attaining the degree as Master of Arts from the University of Minnesota

Following the completion of his schooling Nels Langsjoen, during the years 1906-7, taught school in district No. 19, of Otter Tail county, after which he taught for three years in the Pelican Rapids high school and then the following year he was elected to the chair of Latin and science in Northwestern College, of Fergus Falls, Minnesota, where he is now engaged.

In the church life of St. Olaf township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, Professor Langsjoen has taken a prominent and conspicuous part, not only being a member of the Norwegian Lutheran church, but lending of his talents and abilities for the promotion of the works and efforts of this congregation, in which he is thoroughly appreciated for his part. In politics, Nels Langsjoen supports the Democratic party and while this valued citizen has taken no especial part in the political or official life of the township and county, he has been of no little use as an advisor and counsellor in matters of general interest and for the public welfare.

MARTIN E. FLOEN.

Martin E. Floen was born in Stavanger, Norway, October 10, 1871, the son of Andrew and Rachel (Rasmussen) Floen, who were born at the same place and spent their entire lives in that vicinity. Andrew Floen was a farmer and cattle buyer of his native land, a vocation which he followed until his death about the year 1879, his wife surviving him until the year 1883. To the marriage of Andrew and Rachel Floen were born the following children: Ole, who died as a boy of sixteen years, in Norway; Barney, a sailor, who lives in Norway; Edward, who is a mine worker in the state of Montana; Martha, who married Ole Rasmussen, and lives in Norway; Gertrude, who married Anton Olson, a carpenter who lives near Christiania, Norway; Rachel, who married Ingwald Rasmussen and lives at Stavanger, Norway, and Martin, the subject of this sketch.

Martin E. Floen was educated in the schools of Norway. He was left an orphan at an early age and during his young manhood was engaged in various kinds of work, which he continued until the year 1890, when he came to America and located in Otter Tail county, Minnesota, where for the next six or seven years he was employed generally on the farms of the community. In the year 1895 Martin E. Floen bought eighty acres of land in section 24, of Nidaros township, a farm to which he moved later and on which he put many improvements, among which were a new house and barn, these replacing a one-room house which was the only building on the island when he took possession of it, in its uncleared and uncultivated condition. Later Mr. Floen added one hundred and sixty acres to his original farm, on which he now lives. Martin E. Floen greatly enlarged the house on his farm, built a new granary, put up a splendid barn, in size twenty-six by forty feet, constructed with a hip roof and a concrete foundation. On this farm, with its excellent conveniences and equipment, Martin E. Floen now engages in general farming and in the breeding of Duroc-Jersey hogs.

During the year 1896 Martin E. Floen was married to Gunda Amelia

Moen, who was born in Todd county, Minnesota, the daughter of Thorsten Moen and wife, who later came to Otter Tail county, where they now live, as residents of Nidaros township. Thorsten Moen has for many years been a clergyman of the Lutheran church. To the marriage of Martin E. and Gunda Floen have been born the following children: Tony Alexander, who lives at Lowry, Minnesota; Edward, Alma, Ruth, Obert, Amanda, Martha, David, and George Mervin.

Martin E. Floen is a shareholder of the Vining Co-operative Creamery Company, an industry in which the part taken by Mr. Floen has had its influence towards its success. Mr. Floen is a member of the Lutheran church. In politics he is an ardent Republican.

REV. ANDREW MELAND.

The vocation of preacher of the Gospel, is not one which offers a wide field for exciting incidents, but it is one in which his friends and descendants take just pride. The Rev. Andrew Meland is modest and retiring in his manner, forceful in his delivery, and earnest in the discharge of his ministerial duties.

Andrew Meland, minister at Pelican Rapids, Otter Tail county, was born November 11, 1856, in Norway, and is a son of Ole and Bergete Anderson. His education was received at the public schools of his native land, after which he assisted his father on the farm. At the age of fourteen years, he started out as a seaman and later came to America in August, 1879. He entered the Augberg Seminary at Minneapolis, from which institution he was graduated in June, 1886, his first charge being at Carbon, Iowa, where he remained two years. On January 7, 1888, he came to Pelican Rapids, where he has since been pastor of the Pelican Valley church. Many of the Rev. Meland's ancestors lived to the advanced age of ninety years and over.

Ole Anderson, father of Rev. Andrew Meland, was born in Norway, as was also his wife, Bergete. Mr. Anderson followed farming in his native land, where he lived and died. To this union were born six children, Bergete, Malene, Andrea, Andreas, Andrew, the subject of this sketch, and Ole.

Rev. Andrew Meland was united in marriage, March 7, 1887, to Anna Newton, by whom he has had four children, Orvalle N., Richard, Avin and Ernest. Orvalle Meland is a practicing physician, at Dawson, Minnesota; Richard Meland is a druggist, at Pelican Rapids; Avin Meland is employed in the Wallace State Bank, at Pelican Rapids. Rev. Meland has won many warm and loyal friends at Pelican Rapids, and the surrounding territory, where he is well and prominently known.

MR. AND MRS. LOUIS P. LARSON.

Mrs. Annie C. Larson is one of the few women farmers of Buse township, Otter Tail county, and is highly successful in her undertaking. She possesses unusual business judgment and for the past eight or ten years has most capably managed the home farm. She divides her attention between general farming and stock raising, has also built a fine barn and granary, set out a large orchard, and has a good well, equipped with windmills. She not only manages the place, but also owns it and has long since proven herself a woman of unusual ability, not only in such works as usually falls to the lot of man, but also in those things which are essentially womanly accomplishments. Mr. Larson spends most of his time in Canada, looking after interests there.

Louis P. Larson is a native of Norway, born on August 12, 1848, and at the age of seven years was brought to this country by his parents, who for a time lived in Chicago. From there the family moved to Goodhue, this state, and at that place Mr. Larson passed his youth. He learned the miller's trade and followed it for a few years, but gave it up shortly after the time of his marriage, when, in 1871, he came to Otter Tail county and purchased a tract of land containing two hundred and forty acres. It was then all raw prairie land and he brought it to its present excellent condition.

Mr. and Mrs. Larson were married on January 21, 1867, and before her marriage she was Annie C. Otterness, born on November 23, 1850, in Columbia county, Wisconsin, daughter of Elef and Johanna (Lee) Otterness. Johanna Lee was a daughter of Christ Lee and Elef Otterness was a son of Ole Otterness, who emigrated to America from Norway and settled in this section at a very early day in local history. He located in Wisconsin, right among the Indians, the nearest town being Otsego, about three miles distant. That, however, was very close at hand for those times. Ole Otterness passed his entire life in that section.

Both of Mrs. Larson's parents were born in Norway and were brought to this country by their respective parents while still young, and it was in this land they grew to maturity and were married. After their marriage they secured a new location in Wisconsin and gave their attention to farming. They were pioneers in the section they chose, and their land when they obtained possession of it was all covered with virgin forest. They set about the difficult task of preparing the land for cultivation and in the course of time made a good farm out of it. They later sold out and moved to Willmar, this state, where the father died about the year 1901 and the mother passed away in 1912 at the age of seventy-six years. Both parents were life-long members of the Lutheran church. They had a family of fourteen children. The first-born was a daughter named Annie, who died

in early childhood and the same name was given to the second child, who is Mrs. Larson, of this sketch; then followed Bartwell, Christ (who died young), John, Martin, Phetrina, George, Robert, Rosa (who died in childhood), Christ, Samuel, Henry and Joseph.

Mrs. Larson was reared at the family home in Wisconsin, having but meager advantages in the way of education, and when fourteen years of age came to make her home in this state. At the age of seventeen she was married to Mr. Larson, and to their union has been born a family of nine children. The eldest is Charles, who is a farmer and lives near Church's Ferry, North Dakota; Ellen is the wife of Edwin Engen and resides at Knox, North Dakota; Rosa is the wife of Charles Chambers, of Lakota, this state; Josephine makes her home in Seattle, Washington, where she is employed as a teacher in the public schools; Leonard remains at home and assists in the work of the farm, as does also William; Arthur is located in Canada, where he is engaged in agricultural work; Lillian, wife of Martin Wolden, lives at Landsford, North Dakota, and Floyd, the youngest of the family, who has recently attained his majority, is also at home.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Larson were reared in the Lutheran faith, and have also brought up their children in that church. The entire family has always been numbered among the most progressive citizens of their community, all the children being well trained and educated and all are deserving of the high esteem in which they are held.

JOSEPH DAIKER.

Joseph Daiker, farmer, stock raiser and pioneer citizen of Pine Lake township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, was born in Germany, February 5, 1847, the son of Richard and Veronica (Gulden) Daiker, natives of Germany. Richard Daiker was a farmer of his native country, an occupation which he followed his entire life. Richard and Veronica Daiker were the parents of the following children: Walburga, Barbara, Mary, Christina, Blandina, Joseph and Anton.

Joseph Daiker was educated in the public schools of Germany, and in 1866 came to America and located at St. Cloud, Minnesota, where he followed his trade as a stone-cutter and mason for three years, after which he went to Alexandria and engaged in the hotel business until the year 1871. After his business career Mr. Daiker came to Otter Tail county and homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of land in Pine Lake township, prior to the time when the township was organized. Joseph Daiker cleared about forty acres of timber land and improved his place with substantial buildings. He added to his land until now he is the owner of five hundred and sixty

acres of land in Otto, Butler and Pine Lake townships. Joseph Daiker is now one of the successful farmers of the county, as well as being an extensive feeder and dealer in live stock.

On September 11, 1866, Joseph Daiker was married to Regina Struett, who was born in Germany, the daughter of Adolph and Katherine (Maier) Struett. To the marriage of Joseph and Regina Daiker have been born six children: Joseph L., Maria S., Adolph B., Katherine R., John A. and Barbara V. Joseph Daiker and his family are members of the Catholic church.

Regina Struett came to America with her parents early in 1866 and located at St. Cloud, Minnesota, where she lived with her parents until September 11, 1866, when she was married to Joseph Daiker.

Mr. Daiker has not only been a successful farmer, but he has been a valued citizen of the community, lending his aid to all public matters as well as having served in various township offices, among which was his term of twenty-five years as a supervisor of Pine Lake township.

WILLIAM B. DEWEY.

A farmer of Otter Tail county, Minnesota, who has taken an important part in the public life of the community, and a man who in church circles and in the movement for, and the support of general welfare project, has been a leader of plan and a regulator of action, as well as being a citizen who because of his zeal and his energy, which he has expended for the development and advancement of local life, has won a host of admiring friends and an enviable place in the ranks of Western township citizenship, is William B. Dewey, the subject of this sketch.

William B. Dewey was born in Hopkinton, New York, on May 12, 1857, he being the son of William W. and Harriett (Blanchard) Dewey, both of whom were born in the town of Hopkinton, or went to the locality when young. William W. Dewey was the son of Jerod Dewey and wife, who were residents of Hopkinton, New York, during their entire lives, Jerod Dewey being a farmer of St. Lawrence county, New York. Harriett Dewey, the wife of William W. Dewey, and the mother of the subject of this sketch, was of the well-known and pioneer Blanchard family of Hopkinton, St. Lawrence county, New York.

William W. Dewey, father of the subject of this sketch, was educated in Hopkinton, New York, after which he became a farmer in the locality. In the year 1872 he came to Otter Tail county, Minnesota, and homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of land in Western township, which has been a home of the Dewey family since, William W. Dewey spending his last



MR. AND MRS. WILLIAM W. DEWEY.

days on the place and then handing it down to his son, William B. Dewey.

William W. and Harriett Dewey were the parents of five children, Alzina, Martha, Mary, Rhoda and William B. William W. Dewey and his wife were devoted and prominent members of the Presbyterian church, Mr. Dewey being largely responsible for the organization of the church in the community, and he being a member who served as an elder for many years.

William B. Dewey, the subject of this sketch, was educated in the common schools of Otter Tail county, Minnesota, after which he became a farmer on the home place, where he has lived since. William B. Dewey has added to his land until he now cultivates three hundred and twenty acres of well improved and productive soil.

On December 2, 1884, William B. Dewey was married to Ella Toombs, who was a native of the state of Illinois, a daughter of Thomas and Mary (Crane) Toombs, who moved to Grant county, Minnesota, at an early day. To this marriage were born the following children: Jennie H., Ruth E., Edith H., Hubert W. and Ira T.

William B. Dewey is a leading member of the Presbyterian church, he, for some years, having served as an elder. In public life Mr. Dewey has served with dignity and with notable efficiency on the school board of Western township for some years.

The life and conduct of William B. Dewey and his excellent family in the community has been progressive and good, and of a type worthy of emulation. They are among the esteemed and honored people of Western township and Otter Tail county.

PETER LINDALL.

Peter Lindall was born in Sweden, August 17, 1846, the son of Johannes and Mary (Johnson) Lindall, both of whom were natives of Sweden.

Johannes Lindall and his wife sailed for America in 1856. They arrived at Quebec in the fall after a tempestuous trip and during the journey they were obliged to push their boat away from the icebergs which they encountered. From Quebec they then went westward as far as Moline, Illinois, which was the terminus of the railroad, traveling in a boxcar. Later this sturdy pioneer decided to settle in Minnesota and about the year 1858 he pre-empted eighty acres in Franconia township, Chisago county, this state. In order to arrive there they made the trip on foot from St. Paul to Stillwater. He and his wife finding it necessary to ford all the streams which they encountered. Their goods followed later. Mr. Lindall there accumulated a fine farm. Johannes Lindall died in 1898. Mrs. Johannes Lindall died in 1900 on this farm.

These early pioneers were not unacquainted with fears occasioned by their Indian neighbors but nothing serious happened from this source. Mr. and Mrs. Lindall were members of the Swedish Lutheran church. Mrs. Lindall gave birth to nine children of whom the eldest was Jonas, who became a soldier in Company D, Third Regiment, Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, and later joined Company H, in which he became first lieutenant. Peter is the subject of the present article. Gustave and John, who became ill on the boat en route to America from Sweden, died and were buried at sea. Mary, the first daughter, was born on the boat coming over, and died shortly after in Illinois. The other children are Gustave William, Frank John, Emma Marie and Oscar. Jonas, the eldest son, remained near Moline for one and one-half years after his parents left there in order to attend school. He was well educated and in after life became a state senator, being the first Swedish-born senator in the state of Minnesota. He lived in Chisago county.

Peter Lindall attended school in Sweden about three months, when at the age of eight he started for America with his parents. He attended school in this country, but being in the far North among pioneer settlements his educational advantages were meager and because of his large family of brothers and sister it became necessary for him early in life to care for himself. Therefore, when still a youth, he became a "lumber-jack," working in the pine woods of Minnesota and becoming an expert as a log-driver on the rivers. He worked as a river-man all the way from the northern part of Minnesota to Fergus Falls, as well as on the Mississippi and other rivers. He followed this line of work for fourteen years. After investigating lands in Minnesota for one year, especially in Meeker county, he finally took a homestead claim in Otter Tail county and located in Parker's Prairie township about the year 1868. Beginning with eighty acres he has been able to accumulate land until he now owns three hundred and fifty-seven acres, well cultivated and equipped with good buildings.

After he located on this farm in the early days, Mr. Lindall joined an engineering party and helped survey the Great Northern railroad from Melrose to Fergus Falls. About this time he had many interesting experiences as a pioneer. When he first traveled from Chisago county to this county he was hauled in an ox team. About two years later he returned on a pleasure trip traveling on the same prairie schooner. Wishing to see again the pinery in which he had spent so many days he retraced his steps during the bitter cold weather of midwinter. Reaching the camp, he found that the rest of the party had not arrived and he was compelled to ask for shelter for the night at the door of an Indian tepee. As he could talk the Chippewa language he was welcomed to the Indian tent. When bed-time came his

Indian host took his place on one side of the fire while his guest reclined on the other. Suddenly the Indian woke up and crawled on all fours toward the white man, who, not being asleep, saw with consternation the stealthy movements of the redskin. His blood ran cold as the Indian leaned silently over him and suddenly jerked from under his head the blanket on which he rested. Jumping up, the white man found that his blanket, which was made partly of cotton, had come in contact with the coals and had caught on fire. The Indian was only trying to save his life. It was during this period of his life that Mr. Lindall took part in a council which was held between the officials of Otter Tail county and the Indians at Ottertail, the council being called to discuss the placing of the Indians in what was called White Earth reservation.

In 1882 Peter Lindall became the husband of Ida Charlotte Linquist, daughter of John and Augusta (Olson) Linquist of Sweden. Her grandfather on the paternal side was Johannes Peterson, who lived and died in Sweden. The grandparents on the maternal side were Ole Olson and Inger (Lesa) Olson, both of whom lived and died in their native country of Sweden. John Linquist came to America about 1860 and engaged in his trade of blacksmith at Hastings, Minnesota. After five years residence in this country he returned to his native country and there died. During his lifetime, however, he managed to accumulate sufficient funds to live in ease the latter years of his life and to send all of his children to America. The children born to Mr. and Mrs. Linquist were four in number: Ida, who became Mrs. Lindhall; Carl, of Minneapolis, Minnesota; Wilhelmina, who remained in Sweden, and Matilda.

Mr. and Mrs. Peter Lindall are the parents of eight children. Walter Jonas Alphonse, who studied law in the University of Minnesota, was taken sick during his senior year and died on December 25, 1915. Carl Oscar Regner is a graduate of the college of agriculture in the University of Minnesota. Junetta Eugenia Hildegarde is deceased. Albin Lothard Lefler is a student of the medical department of the University of Minnesota and will graduate in the class of 1916. He has completed the necessary course in less than the schedule time, receiving credit for two and one-half years of high school work, having graduated from Gustavus Adolphus College before entering the State University. Clifford Joseph Fayton is a carpenter living in Minneapolis. Inez Geneva Elizabeth is a student in the agricultural college at St. Paul, Minnesota. The remaining two children are living at home. They are Ernest Herbert Elsworth and Lawrence Ruben John.

By their heroic example Mr. and Mrs. Lindall have handed down to their children an inheritance perhaps more valuable than landed estates. Undaunted, Mr. Lindall and his young wife braved the toil, the danger and

the poverty incident to pioneer life and they were victors over all adverse conditions. Mr. Lindall is esteemed by his many friends, both personal and business associates, for his strong personality and his genial nature and his wife is known as a woman devoted to the welfare of her home and loved ones.

JOHN J. NESSA.

Among the well-known and prosperous farmers of Otter Tail county is John J. Nessa, of Pelican township.

John J. Nessa was born in Norway, June 13, 1861, the son of John Olson and Susana Chentlang, both of whom were natives of Norway, in which country they lived their entire lives, John Olson being a farmer in that country. John Olson and wife were the parents of the following children: Ole and Peter, who live in Norway; Susan, who came to America and lives in the state of Illinois; Malinda, Christinia and Mary, who live in Norway; John J., the subject of this sketch; Johnnan and Ludwig, who live in Norway, and William, who came to America and lives in the state of California.

John J. Nessa received his education in the schools of Norway, after which, in the year 1881, he came to America and went to Kendall county, Illinois, where he worked for nine years and then moved to Palo Alto county, Iowa, working there for ten years on his farm of one hundred and sixty acres. In 1902 he came to Otter Tail county, Minnesota, and bought a farm of one hundred and sixty acres in Pelican township, a farm which he now owns, and where his son, John, now lives. After four years on his first farm in Otter Tail county, John J. Nessa bought a second farm of one hundred and forty acres, this also located in Pelican township, where he now lives, and engages in general farming and in the breeding of Short-horn cattle. The farm is among the best improved of the locality, having a good house, a modern barn and other buildings to make the place convenient and well equipped for agricultural life.

During the year 1896 John J. Nessa was married to Christinia Peterson, who was born in Norway, the daughter of Knut and Christinia (Ostrus) Peterson, who came to America when their daughter, Christinia, was nine years of age, and located in the state of Illinois, later moving to Badger, Iowa, where they died. To the marriage of John and Christinia Nessa were born ten children: John, Martin, Knut, Susan, Dortha, Carl, Gladys, Clara, Mary and Willie. John J. Nessa and his family are members of the United Lutheran church at Pelican Rapids, a church in which they are well known and appreciated for their activity in the work of the congregation.

In the public life of Pelcain township, Otter Tail county, John J. Nessa has served with notable ability and efficiency as school treasurer, and as a private citizen Mr. Nessa is known as one ready at all times to give of his effort and his time in order that the interests of the locality may be advanced.

OTTO UMLAND.

A well-known and prosperous farmer, who is a native of Otter Tail county, where he has lived until the present time and during which time he has been a high type of citizen, serving well and unselfishly in all possible ways and aiding in the development of the life and interests of the township and county, is Otto Umland, who was born on the Umland homestead in Western township, during the year 1880, the son of Richard and Augusta (Mittlestad) Umland, both of whom were natives of Germany, where the father lived until the year 1860, when he came to America, and during the year 1873 the mother came to America and settled in the state of Wisconsin, where they were married. Richard Umland was employed in a saw-mill of the state of Wisconsin for some years, and then in the year 1879 he came to the state of Minnesota and homesteaded a claim in Western township, a place which he improved with buildings and by the setting out of trees in a country which previously was void of such. Later, Richard Umland bought one hundred and sixty acres of land adjoining his original farm, in Wilkin county, Minnesota. The elder Umland now lives a retired life on his farm, a son managing the place. To the marriage of Richard and Augusta Umland were born the following children: Anna, Otto, the subject of this sketch; Ida and Lena.

Richard Umland and his wife are prominent and active members of the Evangelical church of the township, being highly respected and honored people for their long life of service to the congregation. Richard Umland has had no small part in the development of Otter Tail county from its early days to the present time, with its enterprising and prosperous farmers and farms. The elder Umland among other things introduced the first stone well in the county, digging the well with a spade in the year 1879.

Richard Umland, father of the subject of this sketch, is the son of Augusta (Rodtke) Umland, who were natives of Germany, where August Richard was employed as a woodsman on a large estate of his country. Richard Umland was one of the following children: Albert, who lives in the state of Wisconsin; Henry, who lives in Germany; Otto, a soldier of Germany, and Emilia, who came to America, where she died.

Augusta Umland, mother of Otto Umland, is the daughter of John and Louisa (Galer) Mittlestad, who were natives of Germany, where John

Mittlestad was engaged in general work. Augusta Umland was one of four children, the others being Minnie, Bertha and August.

Otto Umland, the subject of this sketch, was educated in the public schools of Otter Tail county, after which for nine years he rented a farm near the home place. In the year 1913 Otto Umland succeeded his father as owner of the family homestead, a place where he has lived and a farm which he has operated in an efficient and successful manner since that time. Mr. Umland gives his efforts to general farming and to the raising of good grade stock.

On November 3, 1904, Otto Umland was married to Margaret Mann, the daughter of William Mann and wife, who came to Western township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, from the state of Iowa. To the marriage of Otto and Margaret Umland have been born five children: Alma, Arthur, Macie, Addie and Elvin.

Otto Umland is recognized as one of Otter Tail county's leading and most progressive citizens, being a man who is a leader for action in the advancement of the county interests, and a man who has spread the fame of Otter Tail county in other localities in public addresses on the life and advantages of this community. In political life, though Mr. Umland has not aspired to public office, he is known as a man of value to the locality in matters of counsel and advice.

Otto Umland and his wife are esteemed and appreciated members of the German Lutheran church in Western township.

OLA K. HANSON.

Ola K. Hanson, a Swede by birth, was born on April 20, 1862, but the process of naturalization in his case was a very rapid one. His parents, Hans Johnson and Buel Arvidson, both of Sweden, gave their children all the education which they could afford and as a result Mr. Hanson received but a very limited education.

Mr. Hanson came to America at the age of nineteen, and at the solicitation of friends came to Minnesota and first located in St. Paul. He worked for a time in a saw-mill in that city. Shortly afterward he left Minneapolis in company with three others for Fergus Falls for which place they had purchased what they supposed were through tickets. However, instead of reaching Fergus Falls they landed at Wadena and found, to their dismay, that this was the terminus of the road. They had little or no money, but managed to hire a man to take them in his wagon toward Fergus Falls. After journeying twenty or thirty miles they informed their driver that they had no money and that he might as well return to Wadena. This he did without remuneration for his services.

Undaunted, Mr. Hanson and his two companions started out to walk the rest of the way. Upon reaching Clitherall a kind farmer's wife allowed them to sleep in the woodshed, but sleep refused to come to their eyelids that night. They could see from the shed door the Indians dancing on the shore of the lake in the distance. The boys, of course, thought that their aboriginal neighbors were preparing to go on the warpath, but fortunately for them such was not the case.

The next day the trio started out on foot for Fergus Falls. Becoming very hungry when within one mile of their destination they found welcome in a rude hut, whose inhabitant offered them, in their famished condition, what they considered a splendid repast. It was, in fact, nothing more than boiled potatoes.

The surroundings were so new and strange that Mr. Hanson was almost constantly in a state of fear, so he made up his mind to return to Sweden as soon as he could earn enough money for the return journey. His hopes, however, brightened, when he was employed at two dollars a day the following spring, grading on the Northern Pacific railroad. Later he went to North Dakota and pre-empted a claim of one hundred and sixty acres. This was in 1884, but after holding the claim for a short time he sold it and bought a tree claim, which he also sold after holding a short time. His next venture was to homestead a tract.

Mr. Hanson, however, found it more profitable to work on the railroad, and he was soon promoted to the position of a grading contractor, both on the main line and on the branches running out of Fergus Falls. For seven years he remained in the employ of the railroad company, and by this time all of the lines in the vicinity of Fergus Falls were completed. He had during this time been investing his money in land, and when he quit the contracting business he owned a farm of four hundred acres. He not only farmed this extensive tract, but also had charge of an additional two hundred and forty acres. He prospered from year to year and when the cyclone of 1896 struck Otter Tail county he was in a flourishing condition. This disaster not only completely destroyed all of his fine buildings but also his extensive collection of farm machinery. He at once rebuilt on a larger scale.

After engaging in the transfer business in Oaks, North Dakota, for five years, Mr. Hanson returned to the farm for three years. In 1908 he purchased the land on which his present home is situated in Otter Tail county. His farm consists of nearly four hundred acres and is equipped with excellent farm buildings.

In January, 1885, Ola K. Hanson became the husband of Christiana Anderson, a native of Sweden and daughter of Andrew Larson. A family

of five children grew up in the home thus established, these being in the order of their birth as follow: Selma, Henry, Emil, Andrew and Leonard. Mr. and Mrs. Hanson are prominent members of the local Swedish Lutheran church, of which Mr. Hanson is the treasurer.

Mr. Hanson has been a member of the township board of trustees for six years, and was formerly president of the creamery which he organized.

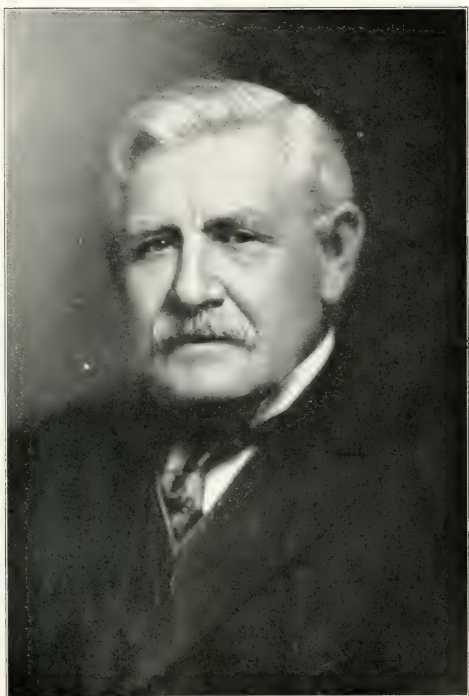
The blood of sturdy old ancestors flows in the veins of the man whose life record has been briefly presented here. Born of a strong, energetic and a pious, God-fearing mother, Mr. Hanson combines in his nature the elements necessary for pioneer life. He has been, in the true sense of the word, a self-made man, and by his strong character and his honorable, upright living he has reflected credit upon that parenthood. Coming of sturdy old Swedish stock, which has settled many sections of this country with dauntless pioneers, he has made each community the better for having lived in it, and in every enterprise which he has undertaken he has met with marked success.

JAMES P. WALLACE.

He who has attained a high type of citizenship is worthy of a place among those whom the world likes to honor. James P. Wallace, organizer of the village in which he lives and for four years its first president, also a member of the board of education for thirty-two years, is practically a self-made man. While the conditions of his youth and early manhood were such as to call out his physical strength and moral resolution, he overcame the difficulties and won the right later to be called a leading citizen and farmer. Mr. Wallace was born in Washtenaw county, Michigan, January 6, 1844, and is the son of Daniel D. and Laura (Ripley) Wallace, he being a native of Vermont and she of New York state.

The paternal grandparents of Mr. Wallace were Daniel and Abigail (Plum) Wallace, both of whom were natives of Vermont. He was a farmer by occupation. They had sons who served in the War of 1812. Mr. and Mrs. Wallace died in Michigan. The maternal grandparents of the subject were James and Susan Ripley, of New York state, he being a farmer. They lived and died in that state.

Daniel D. Wallace, father of the subject of this biography, was educated in Vermont and took up the occupation of farming there but in 1830 acquired one hundred and sixty acres of government land in Washtenaw county, Michigan. He later moved to the village of Saline where he became a merchant, builder and contractor. He put up many buildings in that town which during its early days was plentifully supplied with Indians who lived nearby, and came there to trade. He and his wife died there as did



JAMES P. WALLACE.



also his parents. He was an active member of the Baptist church and was an honest, God-fearing man. The children born to him and his wife were six in number, namely: Edwin, Lyman, Martin, Martha, Mary and James P.

After attending the common schools of Michigan, James P. Wallace went to a business college in Detroit where he studied banking. He accepted a position in a Detroit bank and later went to Chicago where he was employed by the Union Trust Company. In 1882 he moved to Pelican Rapids where, the same year, he organized the bank which was known as the State Bank. After Mr. Wallace, in 1905, assumed the entire business the banking institution was named J. P. Wallace State Bank.

James P. Wallace was united in marriage to Jennie Scott, of Kalamazoo, Michigan, she being the daughter of John Scott. Mrs. Wallace passed away on March 26, 1914, leaving a son, a physician of Chattanooga, Tennessee, and an adopted daughter, Clara C. Strand, who lives at home.

It may be said truthfully of Mr. Wallace that he has held every office which it is in the power of the village to bestow upon one of its citizens. In 1883 he helped to incorporate the town of Pelican Rapids and was honored by being made its chief executive for the first four years of its incorporated existence. The confidence in which Mr. Wallace is held by his townspeople is evidenced by the fact that for thirty-two years he was retained as a member of the school board. Mr. Wallace, in all of life's relationships, has measured up to the standard of excellence which he early set for himself. He can now look back upon a well-spent life, a life guided by the desire to be not only successful but useful as well and such opportunities he has never ignored.

WILLIAM PERSON.

William Person is one of five children born of the union of Andrew and Elma Person, both natives of Sweden, who immigrated to America in 1869 and 1871, respectively. Andrew immigrating first in order to prepare the home for the occupancy of the wife and children. The names of the children follow: Celia, William, Matilda, Axel and Lena. Andrew Person secured a homestead, shortly after his arrival in this country, located in Eagle Lake and Clitherall townships, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, which consisted of eighty acres. After preparing the soil for cultivation and making the improvements necessary for the proper housing of the family, Andrew Person sent for them and, upon their arrival, met them at St. Cloud, Minnesota, and transported them, by ox-team, to their destination. This team he had hired of Nels Morrow, who still resides in Clitherall.

With the exception of two years spent near Henning, Minnesota, Andrew Person has lived for forty-six years on the homestead farm.

William Person was born on July 3, 1865, in Sweden, and immigrated to America, accompanied by his mother and other members of the family, when only a child of six years. His education was received in the schools of Otter Tail county, following which he engaged in agriculture and has continued in this vocation until the present time. He began his initial experiences in this line when a lad of nine years by hauling wheat to market at Perham, Minnesota, using an ox-team as the means of transportation and, on account of the severe winter weather, remained in the woods over night, reaching home some time the following day. In 1888, at the age of twenty-three years, he purchased his first farm, which consisted of one hundred and twenty acres of school land and eighty acres of railroad land, on which farm he still resides. A small portion of this land has been disposed of, his present holdings consisting of one hundred and sixty acres.

In 1889 William Person was united in marriage to Stena Lundy, a native of Sweden and daughter of Ole Lundy, and to them have been born ten children: Oscar, Esther (deceased), Esther, Minnie, Alfred, Carl, Robert, Otto, August and Eller.

Stena Lundy, the mother of these children, was born near Grant Lake, Minnesota, and her father was a pioneer of that township. William Person and his wife are devout members of the Swedish Lutheran church and are highly respected as good citizens of community.

HENRY W. JONES.

Henry W. Jones, farmer, Parkers Prairie township, this county, was born on June 30, 1871, on the old homestead in the township where he now resides, and is a son of John R. and Rachel (Palmer) Jones. His early education was received at the public schools of the district, after which he attended high school at Alexandria. On completing his studies he began teaching school, and continued in that work for eight years. In 1895 he quit teaching and went to Roseau county, Minnesota, where he engaged in general merchandising for a period of about seven years. In 1904 he returned to Parkers Prairie and began farming. In 1912 he bought eighty acres, adjoining the old homestead, on which he resides and does general farming and stock raising. Politically, Mr. Jones is a stanch Republican.

John R. Jones was born on April 16, 1844, in Nova Scotia, and his wife, Rachel (Palmer) Jones, was born on January 19, 1848, near Oil City, Pennsylvania, and died on July 16, 1904. He came to Otter Tail county in 1868, at which time he took up a homestead, consisting of one hundred and

sixty acres. Prior to coming to Minnesota, Mr. Jones had located for a time in Wisconsin. He was a Civil War soldier, and served in the Third Wisconsin Cavalry, remaining out about two years and serving in Arkansas and the west. After the war was over Mr. Jones returned to Wisconsin, where he was married. In 1870 he brought his wife to the homestead which he had previously taken up, and on which he put all the improvements, following general farming and stock raising, and lived there until 1913, when he sold his entire property. The children born to John R. and Rachel (Palmer) Jones, were: Henry W., Harry R., Nellie H., Lucretia, Cora and L. Mae. Politically, Mr. Jones has always been a stanch Republican, taking an active interest in local politics and serving on the board of township trustees for many years. He was for a time township assessor.

Henry W. Jones was united in marriage with Della L. Barber, daughter of A. H. Barber, of Otter Tail county. The children born to this union are as follow: Theron R., Cecil G., Myles S., Harley B., E. Helen and Corwin A.

In the essentials of good citizenship, Mr. Jones is a man deserving of special mention as representing sound business methods in all his business transactions, and by his sturdy integrity has retained the high regard of all who have the pleasure of his acquaintance.

JOHN O. JOHNSON.

John O. Johnson, the well-known station agent at Henning, Minnesota, is a native of Norway, where he was born on October 7, 1877.

Mr. Johnson is the son of Ole and Mary (Nelsen) Johnson, who were also natives of Norway. Mr. Johnson's father was born in 1842 and his mother in 1846. After their marriage in Norway in 1871, they came to America ten years later, in 1881, and settled in Lyon county, Minnesota. Still later they moved to Pipestone county and in 1906 settled at Henning. Here Mr. Johnson's father died in 1912 and his mother in 1914. They were the parents of eight children, of whom two, John and Gertie, are deceased. The living children are Carrie, John O., Nels S., Lucile, Lena and Olaf.

John O. Johnson was educated in the public schools of Pipestone county, Minnesota, and in 1896, when he was nineteen years old, took up railroad-ing at Pipestone, in Pipestone county. After working as an operator at Pipestone for three months, he worked four months at Corson, in Minnehaha county, South Dakota. Later he worked at Sioux Falls, South Dakota, where he was night operator for one month and then at Marshall, Minnesota, for one and one-half years. Still later he worked at Green Valley as

agent for four months and then moved to Manley, Minnesota, where he was agent for nine months. All of these positions were given to Mr. Johnson by the Great Northern railroad. From Manley, Minnesota, Mr. Johnson moved to Armstrong Creek, on the Soo Line railroad, but was there only one month, when he went to North Escanaba, Michigan, and worked for six months as the agent. Later he worked at Cavour, Wisconsin, for one and one-half years and then at Dressler Junction, Wisconsin, for two months. After that he was the agent at Kilbernie, North Dakota, for two years and after that, at Kulm, North Dakota, for six months. He was operator at the front during the construction of the railroad from Ottertail, Minnesota, to the Canadian boundary and, on July 8, 1904, came to Henning, this county. With the exception of three months spent at Colorado Springs, he has been stationed at Henning continuously ever since. While at Colorado Springs he was both the operator and ticket agent.

On December 23, 1900, John O. Johnson was married at Cavour, Wisconsin, to Dora M. Johnson, who was born at Eldora, Iowa, December 29, 1878. Mrs. Johnson's parents were Peter and Martha Johnson, who were natives of Denmark and Germany, respectively. After coming to the United States they were married and lived in Iowa until 1892, when they moved to Pipestone county, Minnesota. It was in this county that Mrs. Johnson's father died in 1905. Her mother is now living at Ruthton, in Pipestone county. Mr. and Mrs. John O. Johnson have five children: Oral, Myrtle, Pearl, Harold and Richard.

The Johnson family are members of the Methodist Episcopal church at Henning.

EDWARD THOMPSON.

Probably no man of the town of Erhard, in Otter Tail county, Minnesota, has taken a more conspicuous or important part in the business life of Erhard and the vicinity than has Edward Thompson, who is cashier of the Erhard State Bank. A man of broad experience, one who has been a farmer, a merchant, a public officer, and now as a financier conducting the affairs of one of the most prosperous of the smaller banking institutions of the commonwealth, he has a record which is most enviable and one to which his friends and many admirers point with justifiable pleasure and pride.

Edward Thompson was born in Norwood, Carver county, Minnesota, November 13, 1877, the son of Knut D. and Mary (Gunderson) Thompson, the father a native of Norway, in which country he was born in 1847, and the mother a native of Carver county, Minnesota. Knut Thompson came to America in 1867 and settled in the state of Wisconsin, where he lived for some years and then went to the city of Minneapolis, Minnesota, accepting employment there for some time, after which he went to Carver

county, Minnesota, there starting a blacksmith shop, which he operated for about five years and then came to Otter Tail county, locating in Maplewood township for one year. Coming to the town of Erhard, Knut Thompson established the first blacksmith shop of the town, following his trade at this place until the year 1906, when he went to Stanley, North Dakota, there homesteading one hundred and sixty acres of land on which he lived for a short time and then went to Fergus Falls, Minnesota, where he has since lived a retired life.

Mary (Gunderson) Thompson, mother of the subject of this sketch, is the daughter of John Gunderson and wife, who shortly before the Civil War left his native land of Norway and came to America, settling in Carver county, Minnesota, where he engaged in general farming until the year 1883, when with his family, he moved to Erhard, Minnesota, and lived in retirement for the next twenty years, and then, his wife having died, he moved to Audubon and there spent the remainder of his days with a son. To the marriage of Knut and Mary (Gunderson) Thompson were born the following children: Edward, the subject of this sketch; Emma, a school principal at Jamestown, North Dakota; Juanita, who married George H. Newbert, president of the First National Bank, at Mora, Minnesota, and Anton, who died in 1903.

Edward Thompson was educated in the public schools of Erhard and in the schools of Fergus Falls, after which, with his father, he conducted a hardware store at Erhard for seven years and then accepted a position as grain buyer for the Minneapolis and Northern Grain Company, a business in which he continued for five years. In the year 1907 he went to Mountrail county, North Dakota, there taking a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres of land, on which he lived for one year, afterward returning to his former position as a grain buyer, a work which he followed for about four years, then became a grain buyer for the Farmers Elevator Company, of Minneapolis, Minnesota.

In the year 1913 Edward Thompson, with other progressive citizens of Erhard and vicinity, organized the Erhard State Bank, of Erhard, Minnesota, he at the time being elected as cashier of the institution, an office which he has since held to the satisfaction of all, managing this flourishing banking house with its capital of ten thousand dollars and its surplus of two thousand dollars, without criticism or complaint from its one hundred and fifty depositors, with their fifty thousand dollars of deposits. Associated with Mr. Thompson in the conduct of this financial institution are the following directors, all well-known men of Otter Tail county, Minnesota: E. A. Jewett, president; Knut Stenerson, vice-president; H. H. Knobel, Axel Knutson, P. M. Knoff and I. O. Grina.

On June 29, 1904, Edward Thompson was married to Julia Anderson, a native of the state of Minnesota, and to this marriage have been born six children, Janice, Marion, Ruby, Laila, Palma and George Edward.

Edward Thompson has found time to serve his township in public office, for more than twelve years having served in his usual efficient manner as township clerk. In politics, Mr. Thompson is independent of party. In fraternal circles, Edward Thompson is a leading member of the lodge of Ancient Order of United Workmen, an organization in which he takes a prominent part.

PETER LOKEN.

Peter Loken, farmer, stock raiser, and man of affairs in Oscar township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, was born at Hedemarken, Norway, April 6, 1866, the son of Michael and Annie (Stetvold) Loken, natives of Norway. Michael Loken, after his school days in his native country and following a term in the Norwegian army, came to America, in 1866, and located in Fillmore county, Minnesota, where he lived for three years and worked as a farm helper. In 1869 Michael Loken came to Otter Tail county, making the journey from Fillmore county, a distance of four hundred miles, by ox-team, and homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of land in section 35, Oscar township, which place he has greatly improved and to which farm Mr. Loken added land, until at one time he was the owner of two hundred and forty acres of land in the community. Michael and Annie Loken were the parents of seven children, Oline, Christie, Peter, John, Marie, Edward and Severine. Michael Loken was active in the various interests of his community, being a leading church worker and a man who was especially prominent in the ranks of the Republican party in Oscar township.

Peter Loken received his education in the public schools of Oscar township, Otter Tail county, after which he became a farmer, working on the home farm for some time, and then later taking charge of the place, where he now engages in general farming and in the raising of Poland China hogs and purebred Shorthorn cattle.

On June 29, 1900, Peter Loken was married to Christine Jacobson, and to this marriage have been born the following children: Alfred (deceased), Marie, Charles, Clara, Olga, Anna, Alfred and Helen. Peter Loken and his family are active members of the Norwegian Lutheran church of Oscar township.

Peter Loken takes an important place in the business life of Oscar township and the vicinity, being president of the Elizabeth Creamery Company, an office which he has occupied for four years. Mr. Loken is a stock-

holder in the Carlisle Bank, and a director of the Carlisle Farmers Elevator Company, having been officially connected with this company for ten years.

In public circles and official life Peter Loken has served his township as supervisor, as chairman of the township board for fifteen years, and as school treasurer, an office in which he has served for seven years.

CHARLIE KUPFER.

Charlie Kupfer was born in Baden, Germany, near Strasburg, on January 25, 1854, the son of Casper and Magdalene ((Gegg) Kupfer, both of whom were natives of Baden, the former born in 1805 and the latter in 1811. Married in Baden, Mr. and Mrs. Casper Kupfer engaged in farming in their native province until the former's death in 1859, after which Magdalene (Gegg) Kupfer was married to Erhard Ehret. She died at the age of sixty-three years, after giving birth to eight children, four of whom died in Germany quite early in life. The four living children are: Paulina, who remained in Germany; Katie, who married John Strawbinger and who lives in Mauck Chunk, Pennsylvania; John, who also lives in Mauck Chunk, where he is engaged in blacksmithing; and Charlie, the subject of this sketch.

Charlie Kupfer was raised on his father's farm and educated in the public schools of Baden until eighteen years old, when he emigrated to the United States in 1872 and settled in Mauck Chunk, Pennsylvania. There he worked as a car repairer on the Lehigh Valley railroad for a period of six years, until 1878, when he came to Minnesota and settled in Carver county. He began work as a section hand with a gang employed on the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul railroad, and two years later was elevated to the position of section foreman, a position he held for nine years. He then removed to Sims, Morton county, North Dakota, and was employed as section foreman on the Northern Pacific railroad for six years, or until removing to Watkins, Minnesota, where he was employed as section foreman on the Soo Line railroad for nine years. Finally, Charlie Kupfer gave up railroading and, in 1903, after removing to Richdale, Otter Tail county, engaged in the hotel business for one and one-half years. Selling out his hotel interests in Richdale, however, he removed to Bluffton, where, after erecting a store building and a hotel, he has since been successfully engaged in business. Aside from his hotel and store in Bluffton, Mr. Kupfer owns a farm of sixty acres situated near the village and takes a great interest in the operation of this farm.

In 1880 Charlie Kupfer was married to Annie Mohrbacher, a native of Cologne, Minnesota, and the daughter of Adam Mohrbacher. Mrs. Kupfer died in 1903, after having borne her husband twelve children, eight of whom are living, as follow: Mary, the wife of Gottlieb Backenstos, lives

in Lansford, North Dakota; Annie, who married Anton Racosky, and who lives in Bluffton; Clara, who married Christ Snyder, and who lives in Morrilton, Arkansas; Charlie, who lives at home; Emma, who married Ben Beachley, and who lives at Blackduck, Minnesota; Robert, who assists his father in the operation of the store; Joseph, who also lives at home and who is engaged as a section hand, and Katie, who married William Geiser, and who lives in Bluffton.

Although for many years an ardent Democrat, Mr. Kupfer has recently cast his influence with the Republican party. He has always taken an active interest in politics and has held various political offices of trust and responsibility. While residing at Watkins, Minnesota, Mr. Kupfer served as mayor for six years and as school director for nine years. During the past two years Mr. Kupfer has been serving as mayor of Bluffton and was formerly a member of the council. The success which has accompanied his public service is evidence of his ability and the number of important positions held by Mr. Kupfer is evidence of the esteem and trust in which he is held by the residents of Bluffton. Mr. Kupfer is a member of St. John's Society and is also a devoted member of the Catholic church.

FRANK J. VOGEL.

Frank J. Vogel, farmer and representative citizen of Star Lake township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, is justly one of the respected men of his community and progressively alert to the needs of his fellowmen. He is a native of Blair county, Pennsylvania, and his birth occurred on July 19, 1870. He is one of ten children born to the union of Frederick and Mary (Smith) Vogel, who were residents of Hollidaysburg, Pennsylvania. The maternal grandparents of Frank J. Vogel were Martin Smith and his wife, who were natives of Germany and emigrated to America in 1840. They located in Hollidaysburg, Pennsylvania, where Mr. Smith followed the vocation of mason until his death. They were both members of the Catholic church. Their daughter, Mary Smith, was born in Germany and was brought to America when two years of age and was reared and married in Pennsylvania.

The father of Frank J. Vogel, Frederick Vogel, was probably born in France but was reared in Germany, and it was there that his education was received. He traveled in both countries and taught school for several years while a resident of Germany, and though he had been reared in Germany he could speak both the French and German languages fluently. At the age of twenty-one years he emigrated to the United States and located at Hollidaysburg, Pennsylvania, where his marriage was solemnized. They con-

tinued to live in Hollidaysburg for some years, and in 1879 they removed to Otter Tail county, Minnesota, where they secured one hundred and sixty acres of land under the homestead law, on which they remained until his death, on June 22, 1898, the wife then residing with her children. This farm was located in section 26, in Star Lake township and was wild, unimproved land. A log house was built and it is still in use.

The first union of Frederick Vogel was with Susan Smith, a sister of the second wife, and to them were born two children, Phillip and Martin, who were twins. Phillip is a salesman for a monument concern and lives in Perham. Martin died while a resident of Puyallup, Washington. The names of the children born to the second union are: George, a realty dealer living in Rainier, Oregon; Fred is a machinist and lives in Brainerd, Minnesota; Kate became the wife of James Aldrich and their home is in Nashua, Wilkin county, Minnesota; Joseph died in Fergus Falls, Minnesota; Annie married Wilbur Brown and they live in Dent, Minnesota; Frank J. is the subject of this sketch; John is a farmer living in Tacoma, Washington; Adam is a merchant in Star Lake, Minnesota; William is a bank cashier and lives in Watkins, Minnesota, and Susan is a teacher living in Dent, Minnesota. The parents of these children were both members of the Catholic church, Frederick Vogel having been one of the organizing members of St. James's church and also a member of the choir while a resident of Hollidaysburg, Pennsylvania.

Frank J. Vogel was educated in the public schools of Perham, having been a graduate of the high school of that town at the age of twenty-three years. After completing his education he engaged in the vocation of school teacher and was occupied in that capacity for nearly eleven years in the schools of Otter Tail county, Minnesota. He also was interested in agricultural pursuits and in 1900 purchased one hundred and eight acres of land, in section 34, in Star Lake township, this county, where he resided until 1914. He then sold the place and purchased seventy acres one-fourth of a mile north of the former farm but located in the same township. This place was not improved and he erected new buildings, making it a very comfortable home.

On January 29, 1901, Frank J. Vogel was united in marriage to Maud Emma Dalle, a native of Arcadia, Wisconsin, and to them have been born four children, whose names follow: Clifford, Vincent, Clare and Catherine. The last two are twins. Maud Emma (Dalle) Vogel is a daughter of Charles and Emma (Davis) Dalle, natives of Germany and New York state, respectively. They were married in Wisconsin and in 1885 removed to Otter Tail county, Minnesota, locating in Maine township. His death occurred in 1912. His wife lives in Idaho. Frank J. Vogel has served his

community as town assessor for nearly twelve years and has also been a justice of the peace for four years. In his political affiliations he is allied with the Republican party.

OLE HANSON.

Ole Hanson was born in Elmo township, this county, May 1, 1884, the son of Ole and Ronog (Bradley) Hanson, both of whom were born in Northfron, Norway, where they grew up and were married.

Ole Hanson, Sr., was the son of Hans P. and Marit (Olson) Ronning, natives of Norway. Hans P. Ronning was a farmer and lived all his life in Norway, where he died at the age of eighty-one years. His wife came to America and spent her last days with Ole Hanson, Sr. She died in 1908, at the age of eighty-four.

Ronog Bradley is the daughter of Nicholas and Martha Bradley, who were also natives of Norway. Mr. Bradley died in Norway, and Mrs. Bradley came to America and made her home with her daughter in Elmo township, until her death.

Two years after their marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Ole Hanson emigrated to the United States, leaving their home in Norway on May 31, 1874. They came west to Menomonie, Wisconsin, where they arrived on June 30, the same year. There Mr. Hanson worked on a farm for three months, after which he secured employment in a lumber camp, at which work he remained that following winter. In the fall of 1874 Mrs. Ronog Hanson, with her children, traveled by rail to Wadena and from there to Otter Tail county on a freight wagon arriving in Elmo township on October 15, 1874, where she stayed with her brother during the winter. The following spring Ole Hanson came to this county, traveling on foot from Wadena to Elma township, where he took up a homestead claim of eighty acres in section 32. They began to acquire what in later years became a well-equipped farm, although it was raw prairie at the time of purchase. Their first home was a crude log cabin built within two rods of their present modern residence. There they lived until 1882, when ground was broken for a more commodious dwelling, this also being constructed of logs, which was later remodeled and became the present family home which stands today. About 1892 Mr. Hanson added eighty acres to his land, this being across the road in Parkers Prairie township. This land was unimproved. Later he purchased forty acres of timber in section 26, Elmo township. He is considered an expert farmer and dairyman, having equipped his farm with modern improvements, including a silo. He keeps about sixteen cows.

Mr. Hanson, Sr., is independent in politics and has served as supervisor in Elmo township as well as a member of the school board. Both he

and his wife belong to the Lutheran church. To them six children have been born: Hans O. lives in Dakota, where he is a prosperous farmer; Martha is the wife of Peter Severson, of Elmo township; Mary is the widow of Henry Peterson and lives in Montana, where she owns a claim, and also has a claim at Medora, North Dakota; Nels is a farmer of Elmo township; Oscar lives in Montana, where he has taken up a claim; the youngest son is Ole, the subject of this review.

With only a meager education, Ole Hanson has been able to acquire the means to own his splendid farm and to become prominent in local business and agricultural circles. He was educated in the local schools and spent all of his spare time in his boyhood working on the farm and learning from his father the principles of successful agriculture. Since his purchase of part of the home place in 1909, he has operated it on the same lines as those followed by his father, adding perhaps more extensive dairying methods.

In 1909 Ole Hanson was married to Rosa Simonson, a native of Elmo township, and a daughter of Simon Simonson, a pioneer settler whose biography is presented elsewhere in this publication. To Mr. and Mrs. Hanson have been born three children, Gladys, Orvey and Maynard.

Mr. Hanson has served as president and clerk of school district No. 99, and takes a good citizen's interest in politics. He is an independent voter.

ANDRIAS MESNA

Andrias Mesna was born in Norway, January 14, 1845, the son of Gulbrand and Runo Mesna, who were born in Norway, spending their entire lives in that country, where Gulbrand Mesna was a farmer. Following his education in the common schools of his native land, Andrias Mesna, the subject of this sketch, in the year 1872, came to America and went to Fillmore county, Minnesota, where he lived for three years. In 1875 he came to Otter Tail county, Minnesota, and homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of land in Pelican township, a place which is now the home of his widow and family. On taking possession of his homestead in the early days, Andrias Mesna found it to be uncleared and without improvement, he therefore proceeded to clear his land, to build necessary buildings and to cultivate his land as conditions would permit; his determination and perseverance in time resulting in his seeing his land become among the most desirable farms of the community, growing not only in productiveness but in acreage, as Mr. Mesna was able at a later time to add twenty-five acres to his already large and well-tilled farm.

During the year 1874 Andrias Mesna was married in Fillmore county, Minnesota, to Marie Christianson, who was born in Norway, the daughter

of Christian Anderson and Gonor Svenson, who were natives of Norway, where they spent their entire lives, the daughter, Marie, coming to America in the year 1874, and locating in Fillmore county, Minnesota. To the marriage of Andrias and Marie Mesna were born twelve children: Gilbert, Christian, Martin, Rudolph, Gustav, Regina, Melvin, Anna, Laura, Clara (deceased), Clara and Alph. Andrias Mesna was an active and devout member of the Norwegian Lutheran church, as are his widow and family at the present time.

In the various walks of life represented in Pelican township, Andrias Mesna was well known and highly respected as a man of strong personality and force of character. His many good and charitable acts as a citizen in the community are broadly known and he is a man whose record in Pelican township and in Otter Tail county will be of a most lasting nature.

Andrias Mesna died in 1913, having lived an honorable life, and on his demise leaving a host of admiring friends who mourned his death.

MARTIN AALBERG.

Martin Aalberg, a native of Norway, was born in 1859, being the son of Andrew and Hannah (Hanson) Aalberg, both of whom were born and died in Norway. Andrew Aalberg was a carpenter and cabinet-maker, at which occupation he worked during most of his active life. He was a master workman, his work commanding much attention in the community in which he lived and labored. Mr. and Mrs. Aalberg were the parents of the following children: Peter, Paul, Martin, Helmer and Hans. Peter is a pattern-maker in Madison, Wisconsin; Paul is a farmer in Richland county, North Dakota; Helmer is still at the old home in Norway; Hans is engaged in the newspaper work in Madison, Wisconsin.

Martin Aalberg received his education in the schools of his native country, which schools compare with the present high schools of the United States. There he carefully prepared for his future life work, that of a civil engineer. His preparation was of the very best and he has been successful.

Mr. Aalberg came to the United States when twenty years of age, locating in Minneapolis, where he followed various occupations until he succeeded in obtaining a position as civil engineer. In 1887 he became deputy county surveyor of Hennepin county, Minnesota, which position he held for five years. He had worked in the surveyor's office for two years previous to the time he became deputy. In 1892 he came to Otter Tail county, Minnesota, locating at Heming, where he has since resided. That same fall he was elected county surveyor, which position he held for twelve years, after which he was drainage engineer for the county. At this time

he also did much drainage work for other counties of the state. In 1911 Mr. Aalberg was appointed district highway engineer, working under the state highway commission. This position he still holds, which is evidence that his work is most satisfactory.

Martin Aalberg was married on November 8, 1884, to Trine Quam, who has been a true helpmate to her husband in the home and in his public life. Mr. Aalberg and his family live on their one-hundred-acre farm near Henning. Mr. and Mrs. Aalberg are the parents of the following children: Lily, Arthur, Harry, Florence and Leonard. Lily is now Mrs. J. Cronkhite, of Thief River Falls; Arthur is a civil engineer with the Burlington railroad, with headquarters at Denver, Colorado; Harry is the present county surveyor of the county; Florence is attending the Stout Institute at Menomonie, Wisconsin; Leonard is still at home with his parents.

Mr. Aalberg as an active member of the Knights of the Maccabees, a prominent and influential citizen and a man held in high esteem by all who know him.

CLINTON L. ERCKENBRACK.

Clinton L. Erckenbrack was born in Rock county, Wisconsin, on July 7, 1856, the son of James P. and Rachel Jane (Love) Erckenbrack, both of whom were natives of New York state.

James P. Erckenbrack was the son of Philip and Jane Erckenbrack, natives of New York state, who locating near Richmond, McHenry county, Illinois, lived and died there, the father being a prosperous farmer. Their son, James P., was educated in Illinois and learned from his father the occupation of farming. In 1870 he and his family were hauled by three yoke of oxen to Parkers Prairie, where they took a homestead claim just across the lake from Clinton L. Erckenbrack's present home. After farming successfully on his tract of one hundred and sixty acres for some years, James P. Erckenbrack had accumulated enough to retire, and moving his family to the village remained there the rest of his days. His wife died on the farm in 1874.

Rachel Jane Love was the daughter of Clinton and Rachel Love. They were born in New York state and moved to Rock county, Wisconsin, where he purchased land from the government and was a farmer the rest of his days.

James P. and Rachel (Love) Erckenbrack were the parents of the following children: Allen, Marjorie, John, Philip, Arthur, Orville, William and Mary. Clinton L. was the third child born in the family. His father and mother were members of the Baptist church and the former was for many years justice of the peace.

Clinton L. Erckenbrack was educated in the country schools of Minnesota and Illinois. Like his father he pursued the vocation of farming, but later engaged in the transfer business for nine years at Parkers Prairie. In 1914 he began dealing in ice, the business in which he is engaged at the present time.

In 1878 Clinton L. Erckenbrack was married to Elizabeth Waldron, of New York Mills, Minnesota, and the union has been blessed by the birth of seven children, Mabel and William, both deceased; Harry, Elsworth, Theodore, deceased; Pearl and Clara.

Mr. and Mrs. Erckenbrack are members of the Baptist church. He is a member of the Independent Order of Modern Woodmen. For ten years Mr. Erckenbrack has been constable of Parkers Prairie, and has filled the place with satisfaction. Mr. Erckenbrack is not only a good farmer but he is a good business man as well. His life has been well lived. The demands of duty, whether personal or civic, have been cheerfully and courageously met, and by his progressive attitude he has been a source of help and strength to the community.

JOHN ALGOT PETERSON.

John Algot Peterson is among the highly respected citizens and progressive farmers of Parkers Prairie township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, and his unusual ability in his chosen profession has led to a satisfactory issue of his agricultural interests. He was born on August 11, 1855, in Sweden, the son of C. J. Peterson and his wife, Sophia, both natives of Sweden. C. J. Peterson followed the vocation of farmer for many years, while a resident of his native land, and emigrated to America in 1868. Immediately after his arrival in the United States he located in Washington county, Minnesota, where he was employed as a farm hand until 1871. He then came to Otter Tail county, Minnesota, where he located on one hundred and sixty acres of homestead land and remained on this property until his death. To the union of C. J. and Sophia Peterson were born four children.

John Algot Peterson moved to Otter Tail county with his father and immediately purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land, for which he paid cash. This property has been improved and increased until, at the present time, it is among the best in the locality. It now consists of one hundred and eighty-four and one-half acres of land, and is devoted to general farming and stock raising. In 1880 John Algot Peterson was united in marriage to Mary Swanson, and to this union seven children have been born, Jennie, Alice, Elbeda, Edna, Emily, Harold and Ruth. Mary (Swan-

son) Peterson is the daughter of Carl Swanson. John Algot Peterson and his wife are members of the Swedish Lutheran church, in which he has served as deacon and trustee for more than twenty years. John Algot Peterson has been very active in educational circles and served for ten years as a member of the township board, also acting as chairman of the same. He has served as township assessor for fifteen years. He takes great pride in the cultivation of his farm and keeps everything connected therewith in the best of condition. Much credit is due him for his unselfish interest in all questions pertaining to the betterment of his community.

JOHN NICKANOR JOHNSON.

A well-known and prominent farmer of Erhards Grove township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, is John Nickanor Johnson, who was born in Pelican Rapids, September 9, 1882, the son of John and Anna Johnson, both of whom were natives of Sweden, the former born on December 29, 1842, the latter, August 16, 1855. In 1879, John Johnson came to America and located in Otter Tail county, Minnesota, three years later coming to Pelican Rapids, where he lived until 1891 and then moved to a small farm one mile east of the town of Pelican Rapids, where John Johnson lived for eight years. During the year 1899, the elder Johnson secured a farm of one hundred and sixty acres in section 2, Erhards Grove township, a place which is now owned by the only son of John and Anna Johnson, John Nickanor Johnson, the subject of this sketch.

John Nickanor Johnson was educated in the schools of Pelican Rapids, after which he became a salesman in the stores of the community for ten years and then he became a farmer, locating on the home farm of one hundred and twenty acres, in Erhards Grove township. John Nickanor Johnson is now engaged in the duties of general farm life, as well as engaging in the breeding of Shorthorn cattle and Duroc-Jersey hogs.

During the year 1912, John Nickanor Johnson was married to Alma Grahm, who was born in Sweden, January 1, 1885. Her father died in Sweden, after which the widow came to America, with her children, and located in Otter Tail county, where she spent her last days. To the marriage of John Nickanor and Alma Johnson have been born two children, Alice Violet and Albert Jewel.

John Nickanor Johnson has taken an active interest in the development of the community and its various interests and resources, being at the present time overseer of roads, an office which he is serving with honor to himself and with great benefit to the township and county.

M. C. KRONEMANN.

In the honored field of agriculture in Otter Tail county, the acquirement of wealth has not been a matter of extended years in the experience of Mr. Kronemann, whose brief history is presented to the reader in the following sketch. His success in the agricultural direction has been one of phenomenal growth, having started out on his own responsibility fifteen years ago, and now controls three hundred and twenty acres of fine farm land in his own name—an achievement worthy of any man's pride.

M. C. Kronemann, farmer, Fergus Falls township, Minnesota, was born on December 5, 1874, in Germany, and is a son of William and Ernestine (Beske) Kronemann. His early education was obtained in Germany, and after arriving in America, he took a commercial course in 1900, after which he began farming for himself, on the place which he now owns, and on which he has put practically all the improvements. In his vocation as a farmer, Mr. Kronemann makes the dairy business one of his specialties, and is a breeder of fine Holstein Friesian cattle. He is considered a man of advanced ideas in his line, having made a special study of every detail in connection therewith. Politically, he is a Republican, but has never taken an active interest in local politics. He is president of the Live Stock Shipping Association, and vice-president of the Otter Tail County Co-operative Store, treasurer of the Farm Bureau, president of the Fergus Falls Telephone Company, and director of the Oscar Insurance Company.

William Kronemann, father of the subject of this sketch, was born on June 26, 1834, in Germany, and died on August 7, 1910. His wife, Ernestine (Beske) Kronemann, was born on July 24, 1853, in Germany. William was a son of John Kronemann, who was a native of Germany. His education was received in the public schools of Germany, where he learned the miller's trade, and operated a mill of his own until 1888, at which time he came to America and located in Fergus Falls township, where he followed farming on the place now owned by M. C. Kronemann. He had one hundred and sixty acres at first, and two years later bought one hundred and sixty acres more, doing general farming. The children born to William and Ernestine (Beske) Kronemann, were as follow: M. C.; Ida, deceased, who became the wife of Fred Hoffman, and Emma Kronemann, who was married to Fred Lother. They are all members of the German Lutheran church.

John Kronemann, the paternal grandfather, was a native of Germany, where he spent his entire life as a farmer. The maternal grandfather, August Beske, was also a farmer, and a native of Germany.

M. C. Kronemann was united in marriage, July 23, 1907, with Minnie



MR. AND MRS. M. C. KRONEMANN.



Holthusen, daughter of John and Charlotte Holthusen. She was born on January 13, 1883. The children born to this union were: Ruth, Esther, Max, Herbert and Emma. Mr. and Mrs. Kronemann are members of the German Lutheran church.

Mr. Kronemann's well-kept farm of three hundred and twenty acres is one of the most attractive looking places in the county, and his reputation as a business man and a citizen is beyond question.

HARRY NILES BRUCE.

Harry Niles Bruce, a well-known attorney, village recorder and justice of the peace, has spent many years in the service of the community in which he lives. Fortunate in having the educational opportunities to prepare him for a life of more than ordinary usefulness, he early learned that "knowledge is power," and therefore set himself to work to acquire it. His later years have been full of conspicuous achievement, both in private legal practice and in public life. Harry Niles Bruce was born in Vermont, September 7, 1846, the son of David and Miranda (Studevant) Bruce.

David Bruce was born in Scotland but came to America when he was about eight years old, locating in Fairlee, Vermont, where in later years he married Miranda Studevant, a native of Pennsylvania. David Bruce was a farmer and stock buyer, and at one time captain of the Vermont militia. He was twice married and was the father of ten children, of whom six boys were born of the last marriage. He died in 1851.

The eldest brother of Harry Bruce, Charles S. Bruce, was in Company B, of the Tenth Regiment, Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, enlisting in 1862, and three years later he was honorably discharged and is now a resident of Rock county, Minnesota, where he was county auditor from the year 1891 until January, 1911. The next brothers, in order of their birth, are Simon R. and George H., who were Texas rangers during the Civil War, and after the war lived in Oglethorpe, Georgia.

Harry Niles Bruce went to school in Vermont until his fifteenth year, and in June, 1861, located in Dodge county, Minnesota, where he attended a select school for one year. In 1865 he joined his brothers, Simon and George, at Oglethorpe, Georgia, remaining there until 1866, when all together they made an overland trip to Texas, by team. In 1867, leaving his brothers, he traveled by a similar method from Texas to Kansas. In 1869 Mr. Bruce returned to Dodge county and settled down to the staid life of a harness-maker at Mantorville. A year later he began farming and continued this vocation until 1881. In June, of that year, he went to Pelican Rapids

and for two years engaged in the harness business. Here also he studied law with H. R. Day, and was admitted to the county bar in 1886, since which time he has built up a good practice. In 1900 he ran for judge of the probate court on the Republican ticket, running a close race with Hon. E. Frankberg, who won at that time and has never since been defeated for that office. Besides being justice of the peace, Mr. Bruce has held many town offices and for a number of years has been village recorder.

The marriage of Harry Niles Bruce and Ella D. Dibble took place in November, 1870, she being the daughter of Daniel K. Dibble, a pioneer of Dodge county. Mr. Dibble was an early homesteader, moving to Dodge county in 1858, where he lived until 1900, when he moved to Owatonna, where he still lives, at the age of eighty-seven years. He followed the occupation of farmer and was for two terms county treasurer. Mr. Bruce and his wife were the parents of Daniel R., a barber at Hotel Dakotah, at Grand Forks, and Libbie Grace, who married L. A. Williams, of Pelican Rapids. The children born to Mr. and Mrs. Williams are Howard B., Harry Niles and Nellie Grace. Daniel R. Bruce married Ella Robinson, and to them were born three children, Vera, Lee and Ruth. Vera married David Fairweather, and they have one son, Lloyd. Mr. and Mrs. Bruce are active members of the local Congregational church.

SYVER OLSON RONNINGEN.

Syver Olson Ronningen is one of the pioneer agriculturists of Norwegian Grove township, this county, and passed through what was expected to be an Indian outbreak, although no one was injured but all were excited. The Indians made frequent hunting trips through the Otter Tail county region, and it was while they were on one of these expeditions that they surprised the Norwegian Grove community in the fall of 1871.

Syver Olson Ronningen is a native of Norway and was born on April 21, 1841. He is the son of Ole Hanson and Martha (Hanson) Ronningen, both natives of Norway, who lived and died in that country. They were the parents of ten children. Syver Olson Ronningen received his education in the common schools of his native land and, after completing same, entered the Norwegian army. He emigrated to America in 1867, locating for three years in Fillmore county, Minnesota, and thence on to his present location in 1870. Upon his arrival in this section he secured one hundred and sixty acres of land under the homestead law, later adding one hundred and seventy-eight acres more. This place has been improved and is devoted to general farming. In 1905 Syver Olson Ronningen retired from farming, but is still living on the farm with his daughter and her husband. His wife

is Karn (Paulson) Ronningen and they are the parents of three children, Ole, Hans and Emma. Syver Olson Ronningen and his wife are members of the Norwegian Lutheran church, in which church he has served in many offices.

ANTON KAUFMANN.

Anton Kaufmann was born at Rusdorf, Germany, on October 24, 1866, the son of Nicholas and Susanna (Kolling) Kaufmann, the former born on July 17, 1840, in Vackschweiler, Rhine Province, Germany, the son of John and Mary Kaufmann, and the latter born at Rusdorf, Germany. Nicholas Kaufmann was reared to manhood on his father's farm and, upon reaching his majority became a farmer and landowner in the Fatherland. He was married, secondly, to Mary Kaufmann, March 1, 1878, and soon afterward emigrated to the United States and settled near Hastings, Dakota county, Minnesota, where he worked on various neighboring farms and rented land for a period of several years. In 1883 he removed to Otter Tail county, Minnesota, and purchased one hundred and sixty acres of railroad land situated in section 7, of Bluffton township, all of which land was covered with timber and brush. After erecting a log cabin on the present site of the farm house, Mr. Kaufmann began to clear and to improve and still later to add by purchase an additional forty acres located in section 5, of Bluffton township. He now lives retired on his home farm and, after spending a great many years of hard work in the development of his land, enjoys the fruits of his labors. By his first marriage to Susanna Kolling, there were born five children, namely: Anton, the subject of this sketch; Katie, the widow of Joe Sadlier, who lives at Akeley, Minnesota; Susie, the wife of Martin Schmidt, who resides in section 7, of Bluffton township; Christian, who is employed in a saw-mill at Akeley, Minnesota, and Annie, the widow of John Goldie, who resides in Bluffton township.

After the death of his first wife, Nicholas Kaufmann was married to Mary Kaufmann, who was born on June 13, 1845, in Olmschad, Prim, Rhine Province, Germany, the daughter of John and Theresa (Rohman) Kaufmann. By this second marriage there were born four children, namely: John, a liveryman of Bluffton; Martin, a farmer of Bluffton township; Theodore, also a farmer of Bluffton township, and Katie, the wife of Ben Weohle, who lives in Bismarck, North Dakota. While still living in Germany, Nicholas Kaufmann took an active part in the Danish and Franco-Prussian Wars and was a participant in the siege of Paris, near the close of the latter war. He and his family are devoted members of the Catholic church.

After being educated in the public schools of Germany and spending one year in school at Hastings, Minnesota, Anton Kaufmann began to work on neighboring farms for about fifteen dollars per month. Subsequently he came to Otter Tail county, Minnesota, in 1883, with his parents, but removed during the same year to North Dakota, where he worked on various farms and ranches for a period of twenty-one years. Finally, in 1904, he returned to Otter Tail county, where, at the age of sixteen years, he had bought forty acres of land adjoining his father's farm on the south and to which tract he had been adding land until at the time of his return to this county he possessed one hundred and sixty acres. Since living on his farm he has improved it both by the erection of a house and barn and by the development of its state of productivity. He makes a specialty of breeding a milking strain of Durham cattle and raising Chester White hogs.

In 1891 Anton Kaufmann was united in marriage to Katrina Mirkes, a native of Rusdorf, and the daughter of William Mirkes, who spent his entire life in Germany. To this union there have been no children born, but an adopted daughter, Grace Koslier, has taken the name of Kaufmann as her own.

Anton Kaufmann is a Democrat and as a member of this party has served as chairman of the school board and as pathmaster. Aside from his agricultural interests, Mr. Kaufmann has dealt extensively in land in both Bluffton and Newton townships.

ANDREW HANSON.

Andrew Hanson, farmer, Parkers Prairie township, Otter Tail county, was born on September 12, 1844, in Sweden, and is a son of Hans and Sisi (Johnson) Anderson. He attended the public schools of Sweden, and as a young man worked for his father on the farm. In 1868 he came to America and located in Parkers Prairie township, where he took up a homestead. His passage to this country was paid by Carl Swanson, for whom he worked the first few years after landing. He had no money when he came, and was obliged to work in the timber. His homestead consisted of one hundred and sixty acres, on which he put all the improvements. He afterward added eighty acres more to his farm, and about 1878 he gave seventeen acres to his church. His special attention is now directed to general farming and stock raising, in which lines he has become financially successful. Politically, Mr. Hanson is a staunch Republican. He is a member of the Swedish Lutheran church.

Hans and Sisi (Johnson) Anderson were both born in Sweden, where they followed farming, coming to America about 1870, when they located

at Parkers Prairie, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, where they spent the remainder of their lives. They reared a family of eight children, all of whom came to America.

Andrew Hanson was united in marriage in 1875 with Christine Swanson, daughter of Carl Swanson, by whom he has had five children, Frank O., Henry, August, Edmund and Julia.

Mr. Hanson is a fine old gentleman, well known and well liked by the entire community in which he resides, and where his success has been achieved.

ALPHUS STILLMAN.

Alphus Stillman was born in Indian Creek township, Mills county, Iowa, May 15, 1852, the son of Clark Stillman, who was born in Avon, New York, August 17, 1827, and of Amelia Ann (Sperry) Stillman, who was born in Monroe county, New York, February 7, 1831. Clark Stillman was the son of Dexter Stillman, who was born in Colebrook, Connecticut, March 23, 1804, and of Barbara (Redfield) Stillman, who was born in Lexington, Vermont, February 5, 1808, Dexter and Barbara Stillman being the parents of four children, Clark, father of the subject of this sketch, Franklin, Elizabeth and Mary. Dexter Stillman was a carpenter and farmer of Mills county, Iowa, a trade which he followed until his death, during the year 1852. Amelia Ann Sperry was the daughter of Charles Sperry and wife, Charles Sperry being a school teacher and later the first probate judge of Otter Tail county, Minnesota, dying in this county during the year 1870. Charles Sperry and his family were members of the Latter-Day Saints church, a congregation in which they were actively engaged in the work.

Clark Stillman, father of the subject of this sketch, following his education in the common schools of New York state, went to the state of Iowa with his parents, there becoming a farmer in Mills county, where he lived for some time and then moved to Fremont county, Iowa, later coming to Otter Tail county, Minnesota, in the year 1865, soon after which time he died as the result of disease contracted while serving as a soldier in the various campaigns of the Mexican War in the years 1846-47. Clark and Amelia Ann Stillman were the parents of the following children: Alphus, the subject of this sketch; Harriett L., who was born in Mills county, Iowa, February 1, 1854; Bainbridge, who was born in Fremont county, Iowa, February 20, 1856; Barbara, who was born in Fremont county, Iowa, July 26, 1857; Ann, who was born on May 16, 1859, in Fremont county, Iowa; Charles H., who was born on June 11, 1861, in Fremont county, Iowa;

Cynthia, who was born in Fremont county, Iowa, November 23, 1863, and Albert, who was born in Otter Tail county, Minnesota, September 30, 1865. Mrs. Amelia Stillman died on September 16, 1890, in Deer Creek, Otter Tail county, being fifty-nine years of age.

Alphus Stillman was educated in the public schools of Fremont county, Iowa, after which he came with his parents to Otter Tail county, during the year 1865, and homesteaded a farm in Deer Creek township, where he lived for some years. He then acquired eighty acres in section 14, same township, which he later sold and moved, in 1871, to his present farm of eighty acres, in section 26, adjoining his homestead in Deer Creek township. The present well improved and highly cultivated state of the farm of Alphus Stillman is due to the determination and perseverance of this hardy farmer, who on taking possession of his land found it to be uncleared of timber and of heavy brush, and who proceeded to care for his place in such a manner that it is now one of the desirable farms in the township. In addition to the raising of large quantities of potatoes, barley and corn, Mr. Stillman gives of his time to the dairy business, keeping for this purpose five cows.

OLE O. HOUG.

Ole O. Houg, a successful and prosperous citizen of Otter Tail county, was born in Norway on May 3, 1864, the son of Ole O. Houg and Gomer Gresby. The senior Mr. Houg was a farmer in his native country. He and his family made the long ocean voyage in 1869 and traveled direct to La Crosse, Wisconsin, where they lived for one year, the father working on a farm. The next year the little family left La Crosse with an ox team on their long journey of some four hundred miles to Otter Tail county, where Mr. Houg homesteaded one hundred and fifty-four acres of land in sections 26 and 27, of Oscar township. By the united efforts and hard work of the family the farm was developed and improved, good and substantial buildings erected and here the father and mother lived until their death, some years ago.

Ole O. Houg was but five years of age when he came to the United States with his parents. He was reared on the home farm and received his education in the common schools of his home township. He has devoted his entire life to agricultural pursuits. He was married in 1885 to Anne A. Lerbakken and they are the parents of the following children: Alfred, Clara, Olga, Otto, Frances, Regina, Arnold, Arthur and Godvin. Alfred and Clara are married. The family are all active members of the Lutheran church.

The family located on the present farm some twenty-two years ago,

which Mr. Houg purchased after the death of his father. The original farm consisted of but one hundred and fifty-four acres. Mr. Houg now owns three hundred and thirty-nine acres of well-improved land, with well-kept buildings, the frame barn having been built in 1914. He does general farming and is a breeder of Shorthorn and Durham cattle and Poland China hogs.

Mr. Houg is a stockholder in the Carlisle Bank and the Farmers Elevator Company. He is progressive and takes a keen interest in all public, educational and religious work. He has been a school officer of his school district for the past ten years.

FRANCIS R. JACOBS.

Francis R. Jacobs, a native of Rice county, Minnesota, was born in Faribault, December 12, 1868, the son of Royal W. and Catherine (Nichols) Jacobs, the former being a native of southern Ohio and the latter having been born near Elmira, New York.

The paternal grandfather of Mr. Jacobs was Milo Jacobs, who, though born in Pennsylvania, spent all of his active life working as a millwright in Ohio. The parents of Francis R. Jacobs were married in South Bend, Indiana, and later the father served in the Civil War, enlisting in Company K, of the Twelfth Michigan Cavalry. His brother, Milo F. Jacobs, was in the Eighth Regiment, Minnesota Volunteer Infantry. He moved to Faribault, Minnesota, in 1855, and now at the age of eighty years lives in Portland, Oregon.

Royal W. Jacobs was left an orphan at the age of five years and was brought up by an aunt living in New York state. He attended school until his twentieth year, including a course in law at the seminary in Elmira, New York, and later he became a sawyer. His ambition to become a lawyer was thwarted on account of the Civil War, and after its close, in 1867, he came to Minnesota. He previously had gone from New York to Michigan, then to Illinois and from there to Rice county, Minnesota. Here he engaged in running saws until 1870, when he moved to his present location in Pelican Rapids. He followed the same occupation for three years, meantime building the first dam in this locality. He early became a homesteader, taking a claim of one hundred and twenty acres one-half mile west of Pelican Rapids, which is called to this day the "Jacobs Place." When he first came to this locality it was in company with his uncle, Asa H. Jacobs, who had made the trip previously and who was the first white man to set foot on the soil of Pelican township. The claim which Royal Jacobs held for his uncle was part of the site upon which the town is now situated. As the uncle

had no legal right to a homestead, having obtained all that was due him, his young nephew held the claim for him. In 1870, Asa H. Jacobs sold his claim, and Royal Jacobs homesteaded a claim for himself, one-half mile west of Pelican Rapids and to this he brought his family in 1871. Being an early settler, and capable, he held a number of the local offices. He died suddenly while engaged in harvesting grain, his death taking place on the farm now owned by Fred Damschen. To him and his wife were born three children, Alice, Catherine May and Francis. All were of the Protestant faith.

Francis R. Jacobs was educated in the village schools of Pelican township. From his eighteenth to twentieth year he taught school, and then became a contractor and builder, a line of work which he has followed ever since. With the exception of two years during which he lived in Brainerd, Minnesota, and two years when he lived in Clay county, Minnesota, Mr. Jacobs has lived his entire life in this township.

Mr. Jacobs has had a number of business interests. He is interested in the First National Bank of Pelican Rapids and also in the telephone company. He is a member of the Knights of Pythias and of the United Workmen of America. He served his community by being for two years a member of the board of education. A man of excellent character, Mr. Jacobs has become a vital part of the business world of Pelican Rapids and has begun to reap his reward for his life of strenuous effort in which honor and integrity have been the guiding principles.

WILLIAM ZIMMER.

Descending from German lineage, the gentleman whose name heads the following brief biographical sketch bears out the reputation of his countrymen for thrift and keen foresight along agricultural lines. They seem to possess that inborn ability to successfully conduct their farming interests, which is no doubt due to the fact that their ancestors for generations in the past have been skillfully trained to this life.

William Zimmer, farmer, Fergus Falls, Carlisle township, Otter Tail county, was born on April 14, 1854, at Menomonee Falls, Wisconsin, and is a son of Joseph Zimmer. His early education was secured at the district schools of his native township and later he attended school at Menomonee Falls, and at Milwaukee, where he attended in company with the editor of the *Milwaukee News*. In 1873, he left home and found employment in railroad construction work at Winona, Minnesota, for a short time, at the end of which he went to Minneapolis, and from there to Oseo, where he worked on a farm for one season, and in the winter of 1873 he went to St.



MR. AND MRS. WILLIAM ZIMMER.

Paul, moving in 1874 to Iowa, where he followed farming for five years. In 1881, Mr. Zimmer bought his present home place, consisting of one hundred and fifty-five acres, located in section 25, Carlisle township, Otter Tail county. He has put all the improvements on the place, including a commodious dwelling, which was erected in 1895, and a good, substantial barn, built in 1914, his entire real-estate holdings consisting of about three hundred acres. Politically, Mr. Zimmer is a staunch Republican.

Joseph Zimmer, father of the subject of this sketch, was born in Germany, and came to New York City in 1824 as a young man, employing the first eight years of his time in America in a piano factory at that city, moving in 1832 to Wisconsin, where he lived on a farm the remainder of his life, his death occurring in 1880. He was united in marriage with Mary Haerter, by whom he had two children, William and Henry, who still reside on the old homestead in Wisconsin.

William Zimmer was united in marriage, in 1881, with Louisa Klinger, daughter of Justin Klinger, which union has been blest with nine children, Justus, Lydia, Dora, Jennie, Ida, Hattie, Henry, Agnes and Alice.

Mr. Zimmer is a gentleman of splendid qualities, and is one whose presence wields a beneficial influence in his community, where he has gained a large circle of sincere friends.

ANDREW LIND.

Judging from the conditions which surround his attractive farm in Inman township, Andrew Lind is one of the most enterprising citizens of the township. Having started with nothing, Mr. Lind is now a prosperous and progressive farmer, and the owner of one hundred and sixty acres of splendid farming land.

Andrew Lind was born in Sweden, February 5, 1869, a son of Peter and Anna Monson, the former of whom died in Sweden in 1879, and the latter came to America and settled in Otter Tail county in 1889. Mr. Lind's mother died in 1910, at the age of about seventy years. Mr. and Mrs. Peter Monson were the parents of four children, of whom Andrew, the subject of this review, was the second in order of birth. Hannah, the eldest, is deceased. The other children are Ole and Ingre. After the death of her first husband, Mrs. Anna Monson married the second time, and by this marriage had one son, John.

Andrew Lind received his education in the public schools of his native land. He came to America in 1886, and in a short time thereafter settled in Battle Lake, Otter Tail county, Minnesota. For some time Mr. Lind worked by the month, and in fact, had worked to pay for his passage from Sweden to America. In 1898 Mr. Lind was able to purchase eighty acres

of land in section 12, of Inman township, and to this tract he has since added eighty acres, of which forty is situated in section 12, and forty in section 1, of Inman township. Mr. Lind is a general farmer and stockman. All of his land is under a high state of cultivation and he has erected good buildings on his farm. In 1915 he constructed one of the best barns in the county.

About five years after coming to the United States, in 1891, Andrew Lind was married to Anna Rapp, who was born in Sweden in 1860. Mrs. Lind's parents died in Sweden. Mr. and Mrs. Lind are the parents of six children: Gust, Ida, Esther, Agnes, Otto and Hilda, all of whom are living.

Mr. Lind and family are active and faithful members of the Swedish Lutheran church. Mr. Lind has served on the school board of his township, and also as supervisor. He is rated as a self-made man, a successful farmer and a congenial and popular citizen.

JONAS O. HALLAN.

One of the most prosperous farmers of Aurdal township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, and one of its most intelligent and highly respected citizens, is Jonas O. Hallan, who was born on January 27, 1876, on the farm on which he now lives, and which he owns, consisting of three hundred and forty acres.

Mr. Hallan is the son of Ole and Helena (Hanan) Hallan, both of whom were born in Norway. Mr. Hallan's father was born on July 16, 1837, and his mother on October 6, 1840. The former immigrated to Red Wing, Goodhue county, Minnesota, in 1865, and his wife to Houston county, in 1873. In the summer of 1869 Ole Hallan came to Otter Tail county and purchased eighty acres of school land, the north half of the southwest quarter of section 36, in Aurdal township. Later he added another eighty acres and later another forty, and another quarter was added by his son, Jonas, in 1902, and now has three hundred and sixty acres. This farm has been cleared and substantial improvements have been made upon it. Ole Hallan is now living retired on this farm.

Of the children born to Ole and Helena (Hanan) Hallan, Jonas O. and Christian are twins; Ole, Jr., died in 1901 at the age of twenty-one years; Bena, who died in March, 1914, was the wife of Jacob Lyng and had three children, Harald, Helen and Jean. Christian, the twin brother of Jonas O., is married and resides in Minneapolis. He is a civil engineer by profession and is a graduate of the University of Minnesota.

Jonas O. Hallan was reared on a farm and educated in the public schools and at the Park Region Lutheran College, of Fergus Falls. In

1900 Mr. Hallan went to Oklahoma and took up a homestead fourteen miles west of Lawton, which he still owns. After living in that state for two and one-half years, Mr. Hallan returned to his old home and has since had charge of the farm. He keeps Holstein cattle and Berkshire swine. Mr. Hallan is a prominent member of the Lutheran church, holds many places of trust in local affairs, is a true booster of home development and is always willing to help a home enterprise. He likes to tell of Otter Tail county as the best place on earth to live to be happy, wealthy and wise.

THEODORE JACOBSON.

Theodore Jacobson, farmer, Pelican Rapids, Norwegian Grove township, was born on October 9, 1854, in Vernon county, Wisconsin, and is a son of Jacob and Karen (Olson) Torkelson. His opportunities for obtaining an education were extremely limited, and as a young man he began farming for himself on his father's farm. About 1883, he and his brother, George, became joint owners of the old home place, and, he now owns in his own name one hundred acres, farming, in all, about three hundred acres of land. Mr. Jacobson is an Independent voter and takes a deep interest in the public welfare of his township, being its present supervisor.

Jacob Torkelson, father of the subject of this sketch, was born on January 12, 1821, in Norway, and his wife, Karen (Olson) Torkelson, also a native of that country, was born on March 8, 1824. In his native land he followed the sea, which vocation he gave up in 1846 and came to America, settling at Chicago for a few years, where he was married. From that city he went to Vernon county, Wisconsin, and lived on a farm. In 1869 he came to Otter Tail county and located in Norwegian Grove township, buying at first a soldier's claim of one hundred and sixty acres, and later he took up a homestead of forty acres, on which he put all buildings and other improvements, and where he spent the remainder of his life. Jacob and Karen Torkelson were the parents of four children: Mena, deceased; Theodore, the subject of this sketch; George, deceased, and Caroline. Mr. and Mrs. Torkelson were members of the Norwegian Grove Lutheran church, of which he was one of the trustees and to which he contributed liberally.

Theodore Jacobson was united in marriage, in 1882, with Gena Johnson, by whom he has had the following children: Nathan, Clara, Alma, Inga, James, Clarence and Ella.

Mr. and Mrs. Jacobson are affable, genial people, holding the respect and friendship of the entire community in which they make their home, and where their success has been achieved.

FRANK S. PUTNAM.

Frank S. Putnam was born in Wright county, Minnesota, February 17, 1859, the son of Luman and Levina (Van Dwark) Putnam, both of whom were born at Jamestown, New York; Luman Putnam being the son of Orin Putnam and wife, Orin Putnam having been, for fifty years, a minister in the Free Will Baptist church of New York state. Levina Putnam was the daughter of John Van Dwark, a farmer living in the state of New York.

Luman Putnam was educated in the public schools of Jamestown, New York, after which he became a farmer pursuing a general agricultural life in New York state until the year 1857, when he moved to Wright county, Minnesota, being one of the pioneers of that county, and living there until forced to leave as a result of the Indian uprising of 1862, the elder Putnam escaping to Ft. Snelling, Minnesota, only as the result of warning that the Indians were on the warpath and moving in the direction of his farm. After some hardships, including a period of six weeks when the family was compelled to live entirely on fish, for which no salt could be obtained, Luman Putnam was able to make his farm a safe and productive place for farm life and pursuits, his land at a later time reaching a high value when it was sold by his widow some years after his death. Luman Putnam was a veteran of the Civil War, during the campaigns of which he contracted disease which resulted in his death, he being survived by his widow and six children: Mary, Celestia, Emily, Alvira, Frank S., the subject of this sketch, and Martha, deceased.

Following the death of her husband, Levina Putnam, in the year 1872, with five of her children, came to Otter Tail county, Minnesota, where the children homesteaded, on their father's right as a war veteran, one hundred and forty-three acres of land in section 4, of Pelican township, a place which was improved with a log cabin with a sod roof, as a home, and a farm which was cultivated and later more modernly improved, where Levina Putnam lived for some years and then purchased a farm of one hundred and sixty acres in Scambler township, where she lived the remainder of her days.

Following his education in the schools of Otter Tail county, Minnesota, Frank S. Putnam became a farmer on the old homestead in Otter Tail county, having purchased the interest of the other heirs, and on this farm he lived until the year 1903, having added to his holding until he now is the owner of two thousand five hundred acres of choice and desirable land in Otter Tail county, land which he cultivated as a general farmer and stock raiser until, desiring to retire, in the year 1903, he purchased eighty-three acres of land about two miles northeast of the town of Pelican Rapids.

Minnesota, on the Pelican river, a place on which, after nearly three years devoted to extensive improvement, Frank S. Putnam has moved and now makes his home.

In the business life of the community as well as in agricultural life, Frank S. Putnam has been successful, having, for a number of years, been a director of the First National Bank of Pelican Rapids, an institution in which he is now a stockholder, although he is not actively engaged in the work of the company.

On May 12, 1885, Frank S. Putnam was married to Hannah Robinson, of Scambler township, Otter Tail county, the daughter of John Robinson and wife, John Robinson being a well-known farmer of that locality. To the marriage of Frank and Hannah Putnam were born four children, Orin, Floyd, Worthy and Birdella.

Frank S. Putnam, though a man of public spirited nature and interested in the public welfare, preferred not to serve in any official capacity in the township, but it is only just to this valued citizen to say that his part in the development and progress of the community has been conspicuous and of a nature which has won for him respect and esteemed appreciation on the part of his fellow citizens and associates.

FERDINAND WISCHNAK.

Ferdinand Wischnak is one of the many agriculturists of Candor township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, who finds the soil of this locality particularly adapted to their vocation. He is a native of Germany and his birth occurred on December 9, 1848, in West Prussia. His parents were Gottlieb and Caroline (Engler) Wischnak and they also were natives of Germany. Gottlieb Wischnak was employed as a day laborer until his death in 1852. Caroline (Engler) Wischnak was married, after the death of her first husband, to Christian Boehmke, and in 1881 they immigrated to America and located near Young America, Carver county, Minnesota. Their deaths occurred in that place. To the first union were born two children: Ferdinand and Matilda. Matilda married William Hensel and died in Carver, Minnesota. The names of the children born of the second union follow: Carl, who lives in Dora township, near Loon lake; Rudolph is a farmer living in Carver county, Minnesota; Augusta married Oscar Kraus and lives in Superior, Wisconsin; Theresa married Fred Schlichting and lives in St. Paul, Minnesota; Paulina married Charles Bohn and they live in Wadena, Minnesota.

Ferdinand Wischnak was educated in the public schools of his native land, following which he was taught the trade of blacksmith and immigrated

to America in 1879. He located in Carver county, Minnesota, where he followed his trade for one year, removing in 1880 to Otter Tail county. He purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land, under the homestead law, in section 20, in Candor township. This farm was on the shore of Hook lake and was entirely unimproved, but a log house, sixteen by eighteen feet, was soon erected and the soil put under cultivation. During the first year, in connection with his farm work, he also assisted others in the harvesting of their crops. He now has nearly sixty acres under cultivation and carries on general farming and stock raising. He also owns forty acres near the place on which he lives. In 1895 the present home was built and the barn was erected in 1900. Politically, Ferdinand Wischnak is a stanch Republican and served as supervisor for nearly three years.

In 1883 Ferdinand Wischnak was united in marriage to Bertha Zuehl, a native of Germany who came to America when a small girl, and to them have been born these children: Carl is a farmer in Candor township; Otto owns a farm in Candor, but is employed in other work; Annie married Henry Hannush and lives in Iowa; Fred is at home; Rudolph, Edward and Alma. Ferdinand Wischnak and his wife are devout members of the Lutheran church

CARL O. SCHOENING.

Carl O. Schoening, farmer, Fergus Falls township, Otter Tail county, was born on March 11, 1875, at Fond du Lac, Wisconsin, and is a son of Christian and Elizabeth (Ulrich) Schoening. He was educated at the public schools of Otter Tail county, and as a young man started to farm for himself on his father's farm and is still living on the place, where he does general farming and owns in his own name one hundred and sixty acres of well-improved farm land, which has been acquired through thrift and industry. Mr. Schoening has always been a strong believer in the principles of the Republican party, but has never sought public office. He is a member of the German Lutheran church.

Christian and Elizabeth (Ulrich) Schoening were both natives of Germany, and spent the last years of their lives in Otter Tail county, Minnesota. A more complete history of their lives will be found in the biographical sketch of William F. Schoening, presented elsewhere in this volume.

Carl O. Schoening was united in marriage, November 4, 1897, with Sophia Meyer, daughter of William Meyer. The two children with which this union has been blest are Walter William F. and Clara.

Mr. Schoening possesses the highest qualities of integrity and human sympathy towards his fellow man, and has earned for himself a place of substantial prominence in Fergus Falls township, where he is well known.

PETER M. KNOFF.

Peter M. Knoff was born near Bergen, Norway, October 27, 1868, the son of Peter C. and Lena (Berge) Knoff, the former of whom was born in Norway on January 21, 1827, and the latter, born in Norway during the month of November, 1821. Peter C. Knoff was a carpenter in his native land, a trade which he followed in that country until the year 1870, when with his wife and six children, he came to America, settling in Trempealeau county, Wisconsin, where he worked in a saw-mill for some months. At a later time he moved to Martin county, Minnesota, there taking up a homestead of eighty acres of unbroken prairie land, a place on which Peter C. Knoff built a sod house for a home and then proceeded to cultivate his land, later adding to his land until he owned two hundred acres of well tilled soil on which from time to time he added improvements. At the time of his death, in 1901, Peter C. Knoff had one of the most productive and best improved farms of that community.

Following the death of her husband Mrs. Lena Knoff moved to Fergus Falls, Minnesota, where she lived until her death in 1904. Peter C. and Lena Knoff were the parents of the following children: Herman, a furniture and fixture manufacturer of Mankato, Minnesota; Jacob, a harness maker of Fergus Falls, Minnesota; Gertie, who married C. J. Hanson, of Fergus Falls, Minnesota; Lizzie, who married Andrew Anderson and lives in Carlisle township, Otter Tail county; Christian, who is deceased; Peter M., the subject of this sketch, and one child who died in infancy. Peter C. Knoff and his wife were faithful and devout members of the Norwegian Lutheran church.

Peter M. Knoff, following his education in the common schools of Martin county, remained at home as an aid to his father until the year 1901, when the father died, and then Peter M. Knoff purchased the interest of the other heirs in the home place, farming there for about one year. Then selling his land he moved to Fergus Falls, Minnesota, where he lived until the year 1903, after which he came to Erhard, Minnesota, and erected a two story building, in size thirty-eight by sixty feet, in which he started a general store, one which has prospered until the stock carried now reaches the value of about ten thousand dollars. During the year 1913, Peter M. Knoff, with others, was instrumental in the establishment of the Erhard State Bank, an organization of which Mr. Knoff is a stockholder and also one of the directors, an office which he has held since the organization of the institution.

Politically, Peter M. Knoff is a leader of the community, being prominent in the Republican party which he supports in state and national politics.

although locally he is independent of party. In public office Mr. Knoff has a long and efficient record, having served with notable ability and satisfaction as township clerk and as treasurer of the school board. Officially, Peter M. Knoff is probably best known as the competent and popular postmaster of the town of Erhard, Minnesota, an office which he has filled most adequately since his appointment on April 1, 1908.

Peter M. Knoff is connected with the Norwegian Lutheran church at Erhard, Minnesota, a denomination which he supports with his effort and means.

WILLIAM F. SCHOENING.

The gentleman whose history is here briefly presented is one of the self-made men of Otter Tail county, having climbed slowly but surely to the top, taking his place among the leading agriculturists of Fergus Falls township, Otter Tail county.

William F. Schoening, farmer, Fergus Falls township, Otter Tail county, was born on May 9, 1864, in Germany, and is a son of Christian and Elizabeth (Ulrich) Schoening. His early education was obtained in Germany, where he attended school for several years, coming to America with his parents when nine years old. He attended the public schools in America for a period of seven years and came to Fergus Falls, where he was employed in a saw-mill, and helped to saw the last logs that were rafted down the river to this place. In the following fall he went to Main, Minnesota, and worked as a contract hand until his marriage, when he bought a farm of eighty acres and followed agriculture. Mr. Schoening has been thrifty and industrious, and has continued to prosper until he now owns a fine tract of two hundred and twenty acres of good agricultural land, which he has improved with good substantial buildings, taking an inventory each year to see what is required for the upkeep of his place. He divides his time and attention between general farming and stock raising. Politically, Mr. Schoening is a stanch Republican, in the activities of which party he has taken a keen interest, having held the office of township assessor for the past twenty-three years. Religiously, he belongs to the German Lutheran church. He holds the office of secretary in the Farmers Co-operative Elevator Company, and is director in the Fergus Falls Co-operative Creamery Association; is director and treasurer of the Farmers Co-operative Store at Fergus Falls, and is a director in the Rural Telephone Company.

Christian Schoening, father of the subject of this sketch, was born on August 7, 1836, in Germany, and died on May 24, 1908. His wife, Elizabeth (Ulrich) Schoening, was born on December 9, 1835, in Germany. He came to America with his parents in 1873, locating first at Cleveland, Ohio,



RESIDENCE OF W. F. SCHÖPENDING.



where they remained a year and a half, and then moved to Fond du Lac, Wisconsin, remaining there about four years. About 1877 Mr. Schoening brought his family to Fergus Falls and bought a farm, where he followed agriculture until the time of his death, and where his son, Carl, now lives. Christian and Elizabeth (Ulrich) Schoening were the parents of the following children: Fred, who lives in Wisconsin; William F., Herman, Charles and Carl. Mr. and Mrs. Schoening united with the German Lutheran church at an early day.

William F. Schoening was united in marriage, November 4, 1890, with Emma Zahn, daughter of Gottlieb Zahn. This union has been blest with five children, Fred, Albert, Bernard, Arthur and Frieda. Mrs. Schoening died in 1906, and Mr. Schoening was married, secondly, on May 31, 1907, to Huldah Voeks, by whom he has had two children, Theodore and August.

Mr. Schoening is a highly-esteemed citizen in the community in which he resides, and where he is rearing his children to be useful and honored residents.

GJERT C. SKEIM.

Gjert C. Skeim was born on May 27, 1877, in Houston county, Minnesota, the son of John G. and Ingeborg (Otterness) Skeim, both of whom were natives of Norway. The father came to this country at the age of twenty and the mother came with her parents when she was an infant. In Houston county they grew up, met and were married and Mr. Skeim there became a farmer and landowner. In 1893 they moved to Norman county, Minnesota, where Mr. Skeim purchased land at Twin Valley, where he and his wife still live, enjoying the fruits of their labors. John G. Skeim has reached the age of seventy-four while his good wife is four years younger. Both are members of the Norwegian Synod. Of the twelve children born to them only four grew up about the parental hearthstone. These are the subject of the present sketch and his three sisters, Martha, Ida and Annie, all of whom are teachers and reside at home.

Being ambitious, Gjert C. Skeim acquired more than the average amount of education and after his studies in the Agricultural College of South Dakota and the Normal School of Moorhead, Minnesota, from the latter of which he was graduated in 1907, he taught school for five years. In 1910, however, he began an entirely new line of work when he became assistant cashier of the State Bank of Audubon, Minnesota, a position which he held for four years. He was also at that time treasurer of the telephone company. In 1914, on the organization of the Almora State Bank, he was engaged as cashier, a position which he still retains. The officers of this

well known business institution are as follow: President, A. O. Netland; vice-president, S. A. Netland; cashier, G. C. Skeim. There are now eighty depositors and a capital of ten thousand dollars and a surplus of two thousand dollars.

Gjert C. Skeim was married to Christine Thorpe, in September, 1909, she being a native of Grove City, Meeker county, Minnesota, and the daughter of an old settler named Jacob Thorpe. To them two sons and one daughter have been born: Jerome Ira Miles, born on February 10, 1913; Gottfried Constantine, and Cordelia Judith Georgiana, August 1, 1915.

Mr. Skeim has taken some part in local politics as a member of the Republican party. He was for three years recorder of Audubon and for two years a member of its school board, and a number of times served as delegate to conventions. He is a member of the Knights of Pythias and both he and his wife belong to the Norwegian Synod. Mr. Skeim has been for the past twelve years deeply interested in the cause of local option and in co-operation with N. T. Moen framed one of the first resolutions for presentation to the state Legislature. With the zeal of a reformer he has worked for twelve years for local option, giving generously of his time and means to this cause so close to his heart. He has the absolute confidence of the community and the good will of all who admire strength of character and the desire to serve one's fellow men.

JOSEPH S. HAARSTAD.

Joseph S. Haarstad was born in Trondhjem township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, on the farm where he now resides. His birth occurred on the 22nd of May, 1879, and he is the son of Simon and Hermana Haarstad. Simon Haarstad was the son of Eric and Kari (Baatner) Haarstad, both of whom were born in Norway, where they lived until death. Eric Haarstad was a landowner in his native land, a title that gave him no small distinction among the people of that locality and period. He and his wife reared a family of eight children, four of whom came to America. Of those children who came to America, Simon Haarstad was first, the other sons in this country were Gunelius, who lived and died in Trondhjem township; Gilbert, who took up his residence in South Dakota, and Andrew who went into the West to seek his fortune. The wife of Simon Haarstad, Hermana Baatner, was the daughter of Ole Peterson and Guna (Digness) Baatner. Mr. Baatner, who was a farmer in Norway, died in his native land. After his death, his wife married Johannes Baatner, a brother of her first husband, with whom she came to America. She died in Trondhjem township, in 1890, while living with the parents of Joseph Haarstad.

During her residence in Norway Mrs. Baatner became the mother of the following children: Hermana, who married Simon Haarstad; Olia, who married Axel Jergenson and lived in Wisconsin where she died; Jennie, the wife of William Swan, resides in Wisconsin; Tena, who never married, also lives in Wisconsin, where she passed away; Guna is still living in Wisconsin, as is her sister Nellie, the wife of Peter Skore.

Simon Haarstad was born in Solor, Brandvold, Norway, in 1840, and the woman whom he later married was born in the same community, on the 8th of October, 1837. As a young man Simon Haarstad followed the occupation of a farmer, which gave him a wide experience in various sections of the country in which he lived. His marriage took place when he was still a young farmer, and he worked at his chosen employment until 1865, when, accompanied by his wife and a daughter he sailed for America. The journey across the Atlantic covered a period of nine weeks and four days. Upon arriving in this country he settled in Winneshiek county, near Decorah, Iowa, where he worked on a farm for two years. At the end of that time he bought a farm in that section, forty acres in extent, upon which he lived for three years.

In 1870, starting by ox-team in a covered wagon, Mr. Haarstad made the journey to Otter Tail county, a venture he never regretted since it brought him valuable returns. Before departing for the county in which he spent the last days of his life, he sold the Iowa farm of forty acres. In Trondhjem township he pre-empted one hundred and sixty acres located in the eastern part of the township, which he later sold. He then set out upon the task of homesteading one hundred and sixty acres, to which he later added forty acres of "tree claim." The land upon which he settled was devoid of any sign of cultivation. He built a log cabin which is still standing on the present farm where it is used as a granary. Part of the land cleared by Mr. Haarstad was used for the purpose of raising potatoes. During the early years of acquiring the homestead, Mr. Haarstad was employed on a railroad near Duluth. Later as he prospered he built a second log cabin, of larger proportions and solid foundation, to this house improvements have been added from time to time until it is very near a modern design. The house still stands as a model of what the early settlers were able to accomplish with small means and is used with all its modern conveniences for the present residence of the subject of this sketch. Mr. Haarstad, before his death, added to his possessions by purchasing one hundred and sixty acres of land in Oscar township, of which forty acres are used for hay and twenty acres are still in timber. Mr. Haarstad lived and died on the old homestead, his death occurring on the 20th of July, 1898. His wife is still living on the home place, and for many years has been a

devout member of the Lutheran church. The couple reared the following children: Kari, who married Bernhard Anderson and later became the wife of Frank Wolfran, resides in Montana; Emma, who lives in Oscar township, married Ole Skolrud; Hilda died at the age of twenty-five years; Olivia, the wife of Martin Velo, resides in Trondhjem township; Peter is a farmer in North Dakota; Gustav died at the age of twenty-five; Joseph is the subject of this sketch, and Ole, the youngest child, died at the age of four.

Joseph Haarstad is indebted to the schools of his native township for his elementary educational training, but his rearing on the farm probably gave him some of the most valuable lessons of his life. From early childhood he was taught to live by labor and his success later in life proved that he had accepted as his heritage a love for the dignity of labor and a respect for the lessons it taught. At the age of twenty-two, Joseph Haarstad left the home place and went to North Dakota, where he homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of land in Ward county. He still owns this land although he has lived in Otter Tail county for a number of years. Upon his return to the old home place in Minnesota he took control of the estate and continues to manage it along the lines of general farming.

On the 30th of January, 1912, Mr. Haarstad was united in marriage to Emma Gunderson, a native of Norway. She is the daughter of Gilbert Olson, who died in Norway, the country of his nativity. Mr. and Mrs. Haarstad became the parents of three children: the eldest of whom died in infancy, the two younger children, Effie and Lillian, are at home with their parents. Mr. and Mrs. Haarstad are members of the Lutheran church. In his political interests, Mr. Haarstad is an independent voter.

OLE ROLANDSON.

Ole Rolandson was a native of Wisconsin, having been born in Manitowoc, October 3, 1861. He was the son of Andrew and Annie (Lyken) Rolandson, natives of Norway, who came to this country in 1853. Upon arriving in America, Mr. Rolandson went to Manitowoc where he took up the occupation of farming. In the year 1879, he and his wife came to Otter Tail county, Minnesota, where they bought one hundred and sixty acres of land in Clitherall township. The land was not totally in a state of wilderness as most of the land at that time, but had been partially improved by Knut Bondy. Mr. Rolandson met the obstacles of early life on the farm with courage and firmness of purpose, and after a few years of labor had his land in a good state of cultivation. At the outbreak of the Civil War, however, he was called from his agricultural labors and served in Company D, Fifty-second Regiment, Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry.

Mr. and Mrs. Rolandson were the parents of the following children:

Sarah is the wife of Joseph Simonson, and lives in McIntosh, Minnesota; Julia, the wife of Thomas Agern, resides in Fergus Falls; Gertrude married Herman Simonson and resides on the Red Lake reservation near Thief River Falls; Anna married Albert Scribner and lives in Saskatchewan; Ole is the subject of this sketch; Andrew is a farmer in Plummer, Minnesota; John died in Minneapolis in 1913, and Emma, the wife of N. E. Nelson, resides at Fergus Falls.

The early education of Ole Rolandson was received in the public schools of Fergus Falls, Minnesota, and after completing the course in the common schools he began to work on the farm with his father. From early youth Ole Rolandson was drilled in the hard school of toil, a fact that made his mature life full of worthy accomplishments. After his marriage, Mr. Rolandson lived for ten years in Fergus Falls where he was employed in the Harris mill. In 1895 he bought the old Rolandson homestead, which at that time extended over a tract of one hundred and sixty acres, and made a number of improvements. His investment proved to be profitable, and in 1900 he bought the eighty acre farm adjoining his original purchase. On the land which brought him prosperity, Mr. Rolandson began to build a handsome residence, which was only partially completed at the time of his death, which occurred in 1910.

Aside from his ability as a farmer, Mr. Rolandson was a man of unusual business qualities, which found vent in many lines of work. At the time of his death he was a director in the Farmers Co-operative Elevator Company, and was also a director in the Battle Lake Creamery Company, which he was instrumental in organizing. As a member of the Republican party, Mr. Rolandson served the community in which he lived as a public official for a number of years. As a school director he made a large circle of friends. Both he and his wife were actively associated with the affairs of the Norwegian Lutheran church, of which they were devout members.

The marriage of Ole Rolandson and Bertha Agern took place on the 29th of May, 1885. She is a native of Manitowoc, Wisconsin, having been born there on the 24th of November, 1857. She is the daughter of Knut and Berit (Qualy) Agern, natives of Norway, who immigrated to Wisconsin during the pioneer days, where they lived until the time of their death. To the union of Mr. and Mrs. Rolandson the following children have been born: Clarence A., who is manager of the Fergus Falls Woolen Mills, at Fergus Falls, Minnesota, and a partner in the Bergland & Rolandson shoe store. He is the husband of Amanda Larson. Roy B. is owner of eighty acres of land on the home place where he lives. He married Selma Vennerstrom. Erwin, who lives at Reserve, Montana, where he has a general store, married Sarah Bass. Ernest G. is at home, where he manages the farm.

JOHN H. SEEBA.

John H. Seeba, prominent farmer and pioneer citizen of Friberg township, this county, was born at Hanover, Germany, May 19, 1850, the son of John and Gacica (Koch) Seeba, both of whom were born in Germany. John Seeba, Sr., was a farmer of his native country, an occupation which he followed his entire life, with the exception of three years as a soldier in the German army. John and Gacica Seeba were the parents of one son, John H., the subject of this sketch.

John H. Seeba was educated in the common schools of Germany, and when eighteen years of age, in 1868, he came to America, and after a short time in New York City, went to Red Wing, Minnesota, near where he worked on a farm for three years. In the spring of 1871 John H. Seeba was married to Metta Brewer, the daughter of N. Brewer, a teacher in Hanover, Germany. Leaving Red Wing in July, 1871, Mr. Seeba came to Otter Tail county to look for a homestead. Here he found land to his liking but there were no roads nor railways here then. He returned to Red Wing and in the spring of 1872 bought an ox-team and wagon on which he loaded his family and belongings, and accompanied by a neighbor set out on his journey to this county. It was a long and toilsome trip, as they sometimes had to clear away the trees and brush to get the wagon through. Mr. Seeba selected a homestead in section 34, Friberg township, and was the first settler in this township. He immediately cleared a small place for a garden and after it was planted set to work to build a house. As there were no saw-mills nor lumber yards within seventy-five miles, Mr. Seeba was forced to construct a house of logs, which were plentiful in the woods nearby, and on which he placed a sod roof, making it cool in summer and warm in winter.

In 1874 there were enough settlers to organize a township and it was called Friberg. John H. Seeba was elected road supervisor to lay out the roads and build bridges across Red river. As the township at that time had no funds the settlers had to furnish most of the materials and labor for the necessary improvements. Mr. Seeba had had some experience with a pile-driver, so he was given charge of constructing the bridges, and built, in all, five bridges across the Red river. He also laid out and established nearly all the roads in Friberg township during the thirty years that he was supervisor.

Mrs. Metta (Brewer) Seeba died in 1876, and in 1879 John H. Seeba was married, secondly, to Albertina Eichstadt, a daughter of Fred Eichstadt, a farmer of Friberg township, and to this union five children were born, three sons and two daughters, namely: Frederick, who lives on a farm in Maine township, this county; Herman lives at home and manages the farm;

John died in infancy; Mary and Amelia live on farms in Montana. In July, 1890, Mrs. Albertina Seeba died from the effects of a sunstroke, leaving the five small children, the youngest of whom was fifteen months old.

In 1891, John H. Seeba was married to Emma Wenstrom, daughter of John Wenstrom, a farmer of Friberg township, and to this union was born one child, Alice, who lives with her parents on the farm.

Mr. Seeba assisted in organizing a German Lutheran church in Friberg township in 1875, and served as trustee of that church for ten years. In 1879 he was elected as township school trustee and has served continuously since that time. Mr. Seeba was appointed postmaster of Friberg in 1881, and was postmaster for ten years, when he resigned. Mr. Seeba and his family are held in high esteem in this community, in the development of which he has had such a large part.

ANDREW O. SOLUM.

Andrew O. Solum was born near Christiania, Norway, April 27, 1866, the son of Ole H. Solum and Kari Stadum, both of whom were born in Norway, the father in the year 1836, and the mother in the year 1840. Ole H. Solum was a farmer in his native land, a vocation which he pursued there until the year 1868, when with his wife and two children he came to America. After a voyage of six weeks on a sailing vessel they landed at New York City, from there going to Fillmore county, Minnesota, in which county Ole H. Solum and his family lived for four years. In 1872 they moved to Clay county, Minnesota, where the elder Solum homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of land, which being uncultivated prairie land he proceeded to break and after building a log house for a home this pioneer prepared his land for cultivation, later adding to his holdings until he was the owner of three hundred and forty acres of well improved and highly cultivated land, where he now makes his home. Ole H. Solum and Kari Stadum are the parents of the following children: Hans, who operates the home farm; Andrew, the subject of this sketch; Syvert, who is cashier of the First National Bank of Barnesville, Minnesota; Martin, who purchased one hundred and sixty acres of the home place, where he now lives engaged in general agricultural pursuits; Peter, who is a merchant of Barnesville, Minnesota; and four children who are deceased, Louis dying when he was eleven years of age, Christine dying when she was fourteen years of age, and Emil and Ole who died at the age of one year. Ole H. Solum is one of the best-known men of Tansum township, Clay county, having served the township in various offices and having taken an active interest in the affairs of the community. Ole H. Solum and his family are members of the Norwegian Lutheran church.

Andrew O. Solum, the subject of this sketch, was educated in the common schools of Clay county, Minnesota, after which he worked on the farm of his father for some years and then became a wheat buyer at Barnesville, Minnesota, for the Minnesota and Dakota Elevator Company, a business which he followed for one year and then went to Sabin, Minnesota, where he bought wheat, after which he engaged in the livery business at the town of Barnesville, Minnesota, continuing in that business for about eight years. He then established a general mercantile business at the town of Baker, Minnesota, conducting that work for about four years, after which in the year 1903, he came to Erhard, Minnesota, where he purchased the general mercantile business of Goodsell & Company, which he has since operated, being successfully engaged in this line with a stock valued at ten thousand dollars.

On June 13, 1888, Andrew O. Solum was married to Marie Gustafson, who was born in Norway, the daughter of Gustav Christianson and wife, who came to America and settled in Clay county, Minnesota, where they spent the remainder of their days. To the marriage of Andrew and Marie Solum have been born the following children: Alma, who is a saleslady in the store of her father; Olga, who died at the age of sixteen years; Helen and Albert, who live at home, and one child who died in infancy.

Andrew O. Solum is one of the prominent men in the public and official life of Erhards Grove township. He is now serving as township treasurer and also as treasurer of the school district. Mr. Solum is one of the most highly respected and esteemed citizens of the township and county, not only because of his success in his chosen field of endeavor, but on account of his public spirited nature and his efforts for the welfare of the community.

COLBERT G. HAYHURST.

Colbert G. Hayhurst, postmaster of Richville, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, is one of the prominent citizens of that town who owe their influence to the sterling qualities of character which have distinguished them and placed them in positions of trust. He has the distinction of having been an expert gunner in the service of the United States navy, and during that time saw much of the world while helping to man a battleship on a long cruise. Among the many interesting places which he visited were the cities of Gibraltar, Lisbon, Trieste, Fiume, Piræuse and Athens. They then visited Corfu and the Straits of Messina and returned home. They were also taken on a Caribbean cruise, and during this time Colbert G. Hayhurst served as first class gun pointer. On May 22, 1911, he was discharged from service on account of disability, whereupon he located in Richville, Minnesota, where he has since remained.

Colbert G. Hayhurst was born on October 22, 1880, in Spottsville, Henderson county, Kentucky, and is the son of Louis Clark and Rachel (Griffin) Hayhurst. His paternal grandparents were James and Ella (Burbank) Hayhurst, both natives of Ohio, but later of Vanderburg county, Indiana, where they resided until their deaths. James Hayhurst followed the vocation of cooper. The maternal grandparents of Colbert G. Hayhurst were George Griffin and his wife. George Griffin was born near Youngstown, Pennsylvania, and removed when a young man to Indiana, where he settled near McCutchanville, where he followed the vocation of farmer until his death.

Rachel (Griffin) Hayhurst, mother of Colbert G. Hayhurst, was born on November 15, 1844, in Indiana. Clark Hayhurst was also born in Indiana, January 11, 1845. Their marriage was solemnized in Indiana, where they grew to maturity and shortly after, in 1878, they removed to Henderson county, Kentucky. A farm was purchased with the intention of making this their permanent home, but owing to the floods of the Green river the place was sold and another farm purchased near Souffletown, Henderson county, Kentucky, on the Ohio river. They remained there until 1905, at which time he retired to Reed, Kentucky, where he resides with a daughter. Rachel (Griffin) Hayhurst passed away on March 22, 1892, and some time later, Louis Clark Hayhurst married a Mrs. Calloway. To his first union were born seven children: Lottie, who died at the age of four years; James Frank, who is employed in the shops of the Louisville & Nashville railroad at Evansville, Indiana; George F., who lives in Richville, Minnesota, and is employed in a saw-mill during the winter months and operates a threshing machine during the summer; John Raleigh, who is a carpenter in the shops of the Louisville & Nashville railroad, at Evansville, Indiana; Nellie, who became the wife of Lee Robbins, and was married, secondly, to Matthew Brooks, and now resides in Reeds, Kentucky; Colbert G., and Hallie Louise, who became the wife of George Gregory and now resides at Casper, Wyoming. To the second union of Louis Clark Hayhurst one son was born. Louis Clark Hayhurst has always been very active in politics, though non-partisan in belief and has always been a member of the Missionary Baptist church, in which denomination he has served in various capacities.

Colbert G. Hayhurst received his education in the public schools of Spottsville and Souffletown, Henderson county, Kentucky, and was reared on his father's farm until the age of twenty-three, at which time he enlisted in the United States navy. After joining his brother in Richville, Minnesota, he engaged in the operation of a saw-mill and continued in this line of endeavor until his appointment as postmaster on October 22, 1912. His

service in this capacity has been dispatched with conscientious interest and hearty good will. Fraternally, he is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows.

On November 22, 1907, Colbert G. Hayhurst was united in marriage to Charlotte Nancy Donaldson, daughter of Reuben Donaldson, an old settler of Richville, Minnesota. They are the parents of two children, Del Griffin and Charlotte Kathryn.

TORGER JOHNSON.

Torger Johnson was born in Norway on the 19th of March, 1851. His parents were John and Maren Johnson, both of whom were born in Norway. His father was a farmer and followed that occupation until his death. Of the eight children born to Mr. and Mrs. Johnson, six came to America in the following order: Edward, who settled in Girard township, where he took up farming; Christian, who is a farmer in Nidaros township; Carrie, deceased, who was the wife of William Gulickson, of Wisconsin; Gunhild Maria, who lives in Wisconsin, and is the wife of Axel Gulickson; Thomas, who lives in Sand Point, Idaho, and Torger.

The early education of Torger Johnson was received in the public schools of Norway, and after completing his education he came to this country, where he took up the occupation of farming. Before coming to Otter Tail county, Minnesota, he worked for three years in St. Croix county, Wisconsin. Upon his arrival in Otter Tail county he bought two hundred acres of land in Nidaros township and made his home in that section of the county until his death, which occurred on the 18th of September, 1906. The land on which he settled was prairie without trees or buildings. It may be truthfully stated at this time that the presence of his wife and her untiring efforts to improve their mode of living added much to the success achieved by Mr. Johnson in his life on the farm. He engaged at first in the work of breaking up the soil and after a short time erected a dwelling which was destroyed by fire. Mr. Johnson was obliged, with scarcely any assistance, to build a second home, which is still used as a residence by his wife. During his life, Mr. Johnson was engaged in both political and educational affairs, where he gained popularity as a man of high principles and worthy accomplishments. He was a devout member of the Free Lutheran church and gave liberally to its support. Mrs. Johnson continues to work for the welfare of the church.

The marriage of Torger Johnson to Julia Swenby took place in 1881. Julia Swenby is the daughter of Ole and Ingeborg Swenby, natives of Norway, who emigrated to Marquette county, Wisconsin, in the early forties.

Mr. Swenby was a farmer and landowner and after twelve years' residence in the county where he first settled he moved to St. Croix county, where he lived until 1876, when he passed away. Mrs. Swenby died two years later, after a life of usefulness and service.

Mr. and Mrs. Johnson became the parents of the following children: Oscar is a farmer in Nidaros township. Inga married A. W. Pearson and lives in South Dakota. She received her education in the Northwestern College at Fergus Falls and later attended the State Normal School at St. Cloud. She was graduated from the school at Moorhead in 1906 and for the two years following taught school. Thora died at the age of three years and Julia died at the age of one year. Thea married O. E. Herbranson and lives in Nidaros township. She received her education in the State Normal School, at Moorehead, and following her graduation taught school for two years. Mina died when just a year old. Minnie J. is a teacher, and while not engaged in that work makes her home with her mother.

Mrs. Julia Johnson continues to reside on the home farm and enjoys a popularity among the residents of this community and on account of her strong personality, her usefulness and the great assistance she renders her acquaintances in times of need, she belongs to that type of women whose influence is felt for good.

ANTON JORGEN OLSON.

Anton Jorgen Olson, a well-known retired farmer of Pelican Rapids, is an expert in his line of work. The quality of the yield of his acres has always been a matter of pride with him, and he has not only produced good crops, but has known how to dispose of them profitably. Mr. Olson was born in Norway on November 24, 1840, and is the son of Ole Anderson, whose life history is given in the sketch of Otto C. Foss, the brother of Anton Olson, presented on another page of this work.

The subject of this sketch as a boy attended school in his native country and in 1869 came to America and first stopped in Baltimore. Later he went to Iowa, where he lived the first three years of his residence in this country. He then came to Otter Tail county and took up a homestead claim of eighty acres in Pelican township, where he has lived ever since. He improved this place by erecting the necessary buildings and later added one hundred and twenty acres adjoining his homestead.

Anton Jorgen Olson was married to Christina Haugrud, who was born in Norway. They were married in Pelican township. The children born of this union are Hannah A. Olson, who lives at home; Otto C., a resident of Dakota, and Carl L., who also lives at home. The family belong to the Lutheran church.

Mr. Olson is a man whose industry and strength of character have commended him to all who know him. He is a man of integrity and of unfailing consideration for the rights of others. In the labor and hardship incident to rural life, Mr. Olson has had the willing assistance of his faithful and devoted wife.

OLE LARSON.

Ole Larson is a pioneer of Dane Prairie township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, and put under cultivation and harvested the first crop in the township. That he is one of the most respected citizens in his community is evidenced by the fact that he has held nearly every township office, and has discharged the duties connected with the same efficiently and conscientiously. Ole Larson is a native of Norway and his birth occurred on February 8, 1842. He is the son of E. and Inger (Olson) Larson, who emigrated to America in 1852 and located in Racine county, Wisconsin, for five years. E. Larson removed to Houston county, Minnesota, and remained there six months, removing to Fillmore county, Minnesota, where he purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land and continued to cultivate the same until 1861. He then removed to Jackson county, Minnesota, where he entered one hundred and sixty acres of land under the homestead rights, and the following year was driven away by the Indians. He returned to Fillmore county, remaining there until the Civil War ended and then removed to Otter Tail county, where he resided with his son, Ole, until his death, in 1870. After the death of E. Larson his wife, Inger (Olson) Larson, entered and proved on a land claim and shortly after passed to her eternal rest. E. and Inger Larson were the parents of these children: Eston, Maret, Ole, Chesten and Segri.

Ole Larson received his education in the schools of America and after the completion of his student days, engaged in agricultural pursuits until the beginning of the Civil War, at which time he enlisted and served his adopted country with bravery and courage equal to any of her native sons. In 1861 he enlisted in Company I, of the Fifth Iowa Volunteer Cavalry. Some time later he re-enlisted in Company B, of Bracketts Battalion. He received his honorable discharge from the same on June 1, 1866, and at once returned to his home in Fillmore county. In 1869 he removed to Dane Prairie township, this county, where he entered the homestead on which he still resides. It was virgin soil when he first came into the possession of it, and it is now well improved and has been increased until the farm now embraces five hundred and thirty-five acres.

In 1868 Ole Larson was united in marriage to Thora Olson, and of

this union twelve children have been born: Inger, born on November 24, 1869; Gunhild, July 9, 1871, and died on the same day; Gunhild Christine, August 30, 1872; O. Louis, September 27, 1874; Tilla, September 27, 1876, and died on January 18, 1877; Ole O., October 24, 1877; Thomas O., November 11, 1879; Tilla, December 9, 1881, and died November 23, 1910, in Kankakee, Illinois; Edward O., December 9, 1883, and died on February 25, 1891; Anna Serina O., January 23, 1886; Martin O., April 3, 1888, and Emma O., February 1, 1892. Ole Larson and his wife are firm believers in pure christianity. Thora (Olson) Larson is a native of Norway and emigrated to America with her parents about the same time as Ole Larson came to this country. She is the daughter of Ole and Gunhild Olson, both natives of Norway, who emigrated to America in 1852 and located in Fillmore county, Minnesota. Ole Olson purchased a large farm of the government, on which the family resided until his death, the mother then removed to South Dakota, where she resided with a son until her death. Ole Larson has been of great service to his adopted country as well as to his family and the community in which he lives. And as a citizen and a gentleman he is much respected.

ANDREW P. JOHNSON.

Andrew P. Johnson was born in Carver county, Minnesota, February 15, 1860, one of twin sons born to Peter and Johanna (Anderson) Johnson. Peter Johnson and his wife were natives of Sweden, in which country they lived until the year 1858, when they came to America, landing at Boston, Massachusetts, after a voyage of six weeks on the Atlantic ocean. On reaching America, Peter and Johanna Johnson went to Carver county, Minnesota, where they lived for three years and then went to Washington county, Minnesota, living there for four years, after which time they moved to Dakota county, Minnesota, living there for eleven years, and then Peter Johnson and his wife and family came to Otter Tail county, Minnesota, locating in section 20, of Compton township, where Peter Johnson homesteaded a farm of eighty acres, on which he lived for the remainder of his days, dying in the year 1899; his wife dying in the year 1907.

Peter and Johanna Johnson were the parents of nine children: John G., Andrew P., Swan, Betsey, Emma, Ida, William, Freddie and Eddie. Peter Johnson was an active and helpful man to his community, taking a great interest in all matters for the promotion of life and conditions during the early days of settlement in Compton township. In church circles, Peter Johnson was especially notable, being instrumental in the organization and in the erection of the Swedish Lutheran church in Compton township.

Andrew P. Johnson was educated in the public schools of Dakota county, Minnesota, where he attended classes for a short time and then became a farmer on eighty acres of land which he received from his father, land which, being wild and untilled, Andrew P. Johnson cleared and made ready for cultivation, adding from time to time to his land until he had two hundred and forty acres of land, which is now well improved and highly cultivated.

On March 22, 1883, Andrew P. Johnson was married to Emma Johnson, who was born in Sweden, the daughter of John Johnson and wife, who were natives of Sweden, in which country they spent their entire lives. Andrew and Emma Johnson are the parents of four children: Arthur, Mable, Laura and William. Andrew P. Johnson and his family are well known and esteemed members of the Swedish Lutheran church in Compton township.

In business and financial circles, Andrew P. Johnson is connected with some of the largest companies and interests of the county, being the vice-president of the First National Bank of Deer Creek, Minnesota, an office which he has occupied for ten years, and the owner of considerable stock in the Deer Creek Creamery Company. Politically, Andrew P. Johnson has served his township as chairman of the township board for several terms, and for a period of thirty-two years has occupied a seat on the school board of Compton township.

AUGUST BAUCK.

August Bauck, farmer and well-known citizen of Pine Lake township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, was born in Gorman township, this county, March 22, 1876, the son of John and Dorothea Bauck, both of whom were natives of Germany. John Bauck was one of the early settlers in Gorman township, Otter Tail county, having reached that community at an early date, and after homesteading a farm engaged in general agricultural pursuits. John and Dorothea Bauck were the parents of nine children: John, Emma, Fred, August, Mary, Huldah, Martha, Theodore and Ludwig.

August Bauck was educated in the public schools of Gorman township, after which he learned the blacksmith's trade and worked at it for about ten years; after that he became a farmer and following some time as a farm worker in his native community, Mr. Bauck, in 1903, came to Pine Lake township, and bought two hundred acres of land, which he has improved with one of the best houses of the locality, as well as having built convenient and suitable buildings for the conduct of his general farm work. Mr. Bauck is now among the recognized leaders of farm activity in Pine Lake township.

During the year 1906 August Bauck was married to Lydia Liermann, and to this marriage have been born three children, Erna, Erhardt and Alma. Mr. Bauck and his family are members of the German Lutheran church.

HENRY MILLER.

Otter Tail county, Minnesota, owes much of its success and rapid development to men and women who have come to the county from other parts of the United States and from the countries of Europe. Many of these men have been of important service in the agricultural and business interests of the county. In Otter Tail county we find many native-born Germans, or citizens who are direct descendants of the German people. Their force of character, energy and business instinct have had much to do with the successful development of the county, making it today one of the most desirable districts of our country.

Henry Miller was born on November 2, 1868, in the state of New York, and is the son of J. F. and Meta (Shoemaker) Miller, both of whom were natives of Hanover, Germany. J. F. Miller was born on October 31, 1842, and his wife was born on January 20, 1838. Mrs. Miller was the daughter of George Shoemaker, who never came to America. Herman Miller, the grandfather of the subject of this sketch, was a farmer in Germany and was an active member of the German Lutheran church. He always remained a subject of the German empire and never came to America.

J. F. Miller, with his wife, came to America in 1864, landing in New York City, where he remained until the year 1883, devoting his time to the mercantile business, clerking for a time and later entering into business for himself in the central part of the city, on east side, where he conducted a grocery. On leaving New York, he and his family came to Leaf Lake township, Otter Tail county, where they purchased one hundred and twenty acres of land. The first purchase was added to until at the time of the death of Mr. Miller he was possessed of three hundred acres. Mr. Miller's death occurred on November 12, 1911, and his widow died on January 4, 1916. Mr. Miller was, during his life, township and school clerk. The following children were born to Mr. and Mrs. J. F. Miller: Anice, Henry, Anna, Frederick, George, Minnie and Andrew, four of whom are deceased; the living children being Henry, Minnie and George. The family were active members of the German Lutheran church.

Henry Miller received his education in the common schools of New York City. He was married to Minnie Buerge, who was the daughter of Carle and Johanna (Jacobi) Buerge. Mrs. Miller was born on September

30, 1872, in Fillmore county, Minnesota. Mr. and Mrs. Miller are the parents of the following children: Nathalie, Walter, Esther, Henry, Jr., Edgar and Seymour.

After marriage, Mr. Miller located in Leaf Lake township, Otter Tail county, where he purchased two hundred acres of land, which he sold in 1906. In 1904 he moved to Otter Tail, where he established himself in the purchase of grain, with the North Land Elevator Company, with which institution he is still associated. In 1905 he engaged in the banking business and in 1908 was one of the incorporators of the Security State Bank, of which institution he is the present cashier. Mr. Miller is also village and school clerk, and an active member of the German Lutheran church.

JACOB L. BERTHOLD, M. D.

Significant not only for its public service but also in its individual usefulness has been the career of Dr. Jacob L. Berthold, who is one of the most prominent and honored representatives of the medical profession in Otter Tail county. Jacob L. Berthold was born in York, Pennsylvania, on the 20th of November, 1839, and is the son of John W., and Elizabeth (Richard) Berthold, both of whom were natives of Germany. His father was born in 1832, and spent his boyhood in West Prussia, his native home. Before reaching the age of manhood he came to America with an uncle and settled in York county, Pennsylvania, where he worked all his life at the occupation of farming. Mr. and Mrs. John W. Berthold reared a family of four girls and four boys.

Jacob L. Berthold was anxious to secure a liberal education and after attending the common schools of York county he was enabled to enter the Normal School at Millersville, Lancaster county, Pennsylvania. Having determined to prepare himself for the medical profession he entered the University of Maryland, from which institution, after four years of study, he received the degree of Doctor of Medicine, in 1886. The year of his graduation he started to practice medicine in Altoona, Pennsylvania, where he remained just three months. In July, 1886, he arrived in Otter Tail county, Minnesota, where he has continued in active general practice ever since. In this community he has brought to bear an untiring devotion to his calling and his personality and gentleness have made him a welcome figure in every home in which he has ministered. He has kept in close touch with the advances made in medicine during recent years and assumes the responsibility thrust upon him with great assurance and faith.

On the 1st of February, 1886, Jacob L. Berthold was united in marriage to Alice Klinefelter, who passed away on the 5th of May, 1905. To

this union, one child was born, Beatrice, who is a teacher of physical culture in Richmond, Virginia. The second marriage of Dr. Berthold occurred on the 17th of November, 1906, when he was united to Joanna A. Stick, a native of York county, Pennsylvania. One child, Miriam, has been born to this union.

Doctor Berthold has been called upon to serve in public offices from time to time, where his ability has won for him additional praise and public confidence. He has been a member of the town council and of the school board and is now engaged in discharging the duties as manager of the Perham Telephone Company, of which organization he has also served as treasurer. He is also interested in the agricultural affairs on the farm of three hundred and twenty acres in Gorman township, which belongs to Mrs. Berthold. As local surgeon for the Northern Pacific Railroad Company he has made a large acquaintanceship among men in every walk of life. Doctor Berthold is a member of the State Medical Association, of the County Medical Association and is affiliated in lodge affairs with the Masonic fraternity. In his political interests he has always been a firm supporter of the principles of the Republican party. Mr. and Mrs. Berthold are members of the German Reformed church.

FRANK GROUWS.

Frank Grouws, garage owner and farmer, Elizabeth, Otter Tail county, was born on May 1, 1861, in Carver county, Minnesota, and is a son of John Crouws. His education was received at the public schools of Elizabeth. Mr. Grouws has been very successful in business, and is now the owner of five hundred acres of good farm land, as well as valuable property in the town of Elizabeth. Politically, he is a stanch Republican, and has been active in local politics, having held the offices of councilman and village treasurer.

John Grouws, father of the subject of this sketch, was born in Saxony, Germany, and was united in marriage with Mena Hammond, who was born in Germany. Mr. Grouws came to America, and was one of the first settlers in Carver county, Minnesota. After his return from the Civil War he moved to Forest City, Minnesota, and in 1871 came to Elizabeth, where he followed farming and became wealthy, owning one hundred and sixty-seven acres, which he later sold, moving to Milton county, Minnesota, but spent the last years of his life at Elizabeth, where he had retired from an active life.

Frank Grouws was united in marriage, December 15, 1888, with Louise Burau, daughter of Edward Burau, a farmer of this community. She was (49b)

born in Minnesota. Mr. and Mrs. Grouws have had three children: Lawrence, who was married to Clara Sletto, of Fergus Falls, Minnesota, and makes his home at Elizabeth, where he helps manage the automobile business; Walter, who was married to Anna Westmoreland, of Dallas, Texas, and makes his home at Dallas, where he is studying dentistry, and Harry, who is employed by the Peter Maurin Company, of Elizabeth.

DARIUS NELSON SHAW.

Many parts of our Western states are settled directly by people from the Eastern states. Many of the residents of New England states have left their native clime and founded new homes in the great Northwest. Endowed with the thrift of their ancestors, they bring to the new and western country that force of character which is a factor in their success.

Darius Nelson Shaw, son of David and Johanna Shaw, was born on November 7, 1832, in St. Lawrence county, New York. His father was a native of Vermont and came to New York in early life. David Shaw received his education in the common schools of the state. He was twice married, his first wife being named Rebecca. His second wife was Johanna, who was the widow of John Allen. To her union with John Allen the following children were born: Lucy, Minerva and John. The children of David and Rebecca Shaw are Stephen, Axie and Henry. To David and Johanna Shaw the following children were born: Mary, Lucius, David and Darius N.

Darius Nelson Shaw received his education in the common schools of his native state, in St. Lawrence county. He first learned to read from an old almanac and soon acquired the habit of extensive reading. Mr. Shaw was married twice, his first wife being Sylvia Wood, the daughter of John Wood, who was a native of England, and who came to America. The children by this marriage are A. L. and W. D. Mr. Shaw was married, after the death of his first wife, to Luella Hemstreet on August 4, 1891. She was born on September 10, 1855, in Jefferson county, New York. She was the daughter of Paris and Fannie (Watkins) Hemstreet. This was Mrs. Shaw's second marriage. Her first husband was M. W. Taylor, and to that union the following children were born: Elmer P., Lula and Charles. During the time of her first marriage she lived near Menominee, Wisconsin. Darius Nelson and Mrs. Shaw have no children.

Mr. Shaw came to Minnesota in 1852, settling in Moore county, where he purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land. Two years later he sold this farm and purchased one hundred and two acres in Otter Tail township, Otter Tail county, in section 24. He later traded this for "Sandy Beach"

farm of one hundred and four acres, which he later sold and bought a house and ten lots in Otter Tail.

Mr. Shaw and his family are members of the Methodist Episcopal church and are active in the workings of the church. Mr. Shaw was at one time supervisor of his township and was a member of the school board. He served in the Civil War with a Minnesota regiment. He was one of the early settlers of this section and assisted in the organization of school district No. 163.

JOHN P. GREENAGEL.

Although a native of Minnesota, Mr. Greenagel has tried his fortune in various other states, but returned to his own, and is now filling a place as one of the successful business men at Elizabeth, Otter Tail county, where he is the proprietor of a modern, up-to-date hotel.

John P. Greenagel, hotel proprietor, Elizabeth, Otter Tail county, was born on November 11, 1864, at Wabasha, Minnesota. He was educated at the public schools of Fergus Falls, Minnesota, where they gave but an incomplete high school course at that time. He later took a course in bookkeeping at the above place, and also learned the tinsmith trade, which he followed for fifteen years at St. Paul and Minneapolis. He subsequently went to Milwaukee, where he also followed his trade, and later went to Fergus Falls, where he managed the Hans Nelson hardware store and tinshop, during which time he took care of his parents, his father being an invalid for fifteen years. In 1894 Mr. Greenagel came to Elizabeth, where he took out a saloon license, and followed that business until 1911, when the town went dry. He then went into the hotel business, with a livery and feed barn in connection, giving his entire attention to that up to the present time. Politically, he is a Democrat, while his religious sympathies are with the Lutheran church at Fergus Falls. He has always been a public-spirited man, and has held local offices, among which are those of village councilman and clerk of the school board. He is a stockholder in the telephone company at Oscar township and was a man of considerable prominence at Fergus Falls.

John Greenagel, father of John P., was born on April 22, 1818, at Schwabsburg, Germany. He was united in marriage to Barbara Frank, who was born on June 28, 1828, and who was also a native of Schwabsburg. Her parents were Philip and Eliza Frank. Mr. Greenagel was educated in Germany, and came to America in 1855, his marriage having taken place in 1854. On arrival here he settled at Dubuque, Iowa, moving in a short time to Wabasha, Minnesota, where he remained for fourteen years, having taken a claim out on the Zumbro river, where he lived until he moved to Fergus

Falls, October 29, 1869, pre-empting one hundred and sixty acres, which is now in the fourth ward at Fergus Falls, and for which he paid one dollar and twenty-five cents an acre. He lived here the remainder of his life, following farming for a time, and later sold forty acres to George B. Wright, which was later used for lots, at three hundred dollars each. He was in the Revolution of 1848 and 1849 in Germany, where he substituted for a rich man, and with the money thus earned he came to America. He was drafted for the Civil War, but was found to be over age, and was permitted to return home. Religiously, Mr. Greenagel belonged to the Lutheran church, of which he was a deacon for twenty-four years at Fergus Falls. He was interested in politics, and was interested in all movements along the line of public improvement, being one of the leaders in building the first bridge across the Red river at Fergus Falls, and was one of the few men to own an ox team, with which to carry on the work. The children born to John and Barbara (Frank) Greenagel were as follow: Jacob, Eliza, deceased; Katherine, Mary, Barbara, Pauline and John P. Jacob and Eliza were born in Germany, the others being natives of America. Jacob was drowned in the Zumbro river, breaking through the ice when six years old. His body was never found. His sister, Eliza, was with him at the time, but could render no assistance. She came home barefooted, having lost her shoes in an effort to save her brother. She became the wife of Earnest Buse, and lived at Minneapolis at the time of her death. The remains were brought to Fergus Falls for burial, to rest beside those of her two children, being the first-born children in Fergus Falls. Katherine was married to Fred Rudinski, and lives at Fergus Falls; Mary was united in marriage with Joseph Hamel, and made her home at Grafton, North Dakota; Barbara was married to George W. Niebergall, and lived in Perham, Otter Tail county; Pauline became the wife of Frank Erhardt, now deceased, and lived at Minneapolis.

John Greenagel, the paternal grandfather, was a native of Germany, and participated in the war with Napoleon. He lost one of his legs by the explosion of a shell, en route to Russia. He owned a large vineyard, and was considered quite wealthy. His religious sympathies were with the Lutheran church, in the work of which he took an active part. His death occurred at the age of eighty-eight years. His children were as follow: Jacob, Michael, John, Marie, all of whom are deceased; John, the father of John P., being the only one to come to America.

John P. Greenagel was united in marriage, May 23, 1887, to Anna Winter, daughter of Fred William Winter. She was born at Milwaukee, Wisconsin. This union has been blest with nine children, Alice, Johanna, John, Barbara, Jacob, Lizzie, deceased; Gertrude, deceased; Frederick and

Frank. Alice Greenagel was united in marriage to George Stockburger, and lives at Fergus Falls. They have two children, George and Margaret; Johanna became the wife of August Trenne, and resides at Carlisle, Minnesota; John is married and lives at home. His wife was Caroline Wick. They have one child, Harriet. Jacob holds the position of express clerk for the Great Northern Railroad Company at Thief River Falls, Minnesota.

Fred William Winter, father of Mrs. John P. Greenagel, is a shoemaker by trade, and has served for twenty-one years as mail carrier in the city of Milwaukee for the *Daily Herald*, being at the head of the carrier force.

Mr. Greenagel believes in treating his fellow man with the same degree of honest dealing that he himself requires, and bears a reputation of the highest standard in the community where he resides.

WILLIAM H. KEMPF.

William H. Kempf, born in Green Lake county, Wisconsin, on April 8, 1862, is the son of C. W. and Carrie (Fisher) Kempf, both natives of Germany. C. W. Kempf was born on November 2, 1832. After their marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Kempf came to America and landed in New York in the year 1851. They moved to Wisconsin, where they rented land for a time and in 1862 established their home in Goodhue county, Minnesota, where they purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land. Later they moved to Red Wing, Minnesota, where they retired from active work. Mr. and Mrs. Kempf were active members of the Methodist Episcopal church. Mrs. Kempf died some twenty-two years ago.

William H. Kempf was educated in the public schools of Goodhue county, Minnesota, and there he grew to manhood. He was married to Martha Truhm on July 15, 1884. Mrs. Kempf was a native of Germany and came to this country in early life. Mr. and Mrs. Kempf are the parents of the following children: Walter, Elmer, William, Orvil, Roy, Pearl, Hartley, Myrtle, Bernice, Fern and Violet. Elmer and Orvil are married and have homes of their own.

After the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Kempf they lived in Otter Tail village for twenty-four years when they moved to Goodhue county, where he farmed for seven years. In 1914 the family came back to Otter Tail, where Mr. Kempf established a hardware store and an up-to-date garage. In these enterprises he has been most successful and has a large and growing business. Mr. Kempf also owns forty-four acres of land in Otto township. He was at one time chairman of the board of supervisors of his township and was treasurer of the township. He is an active member of the Yeomen of America. Mr. Kempf at one time owned two hundred and fifty-

two acres of land near Rush lake, which he purchased for seven dollars and fifty cents to twelve dollars per acre and then sold for thirty dollars per acre. This farm was all wild land when Mr. Kempf came here, and deer and bear were plentiful in the neighborhood. Mr. Kempf has seen the wilderness of his younger days develop into one of the most productive farming communities in the Northwest.

LYSANDER W. BELL.

The gentleman whose name introduces the following sketch is one of the few men who have entered various enterprises, changing from one to another, and achieved success in each venture. Mr. Bell has shown remarkable qualifications in his journey through the business world, and he always possessed that confidence which, combined with close attention and industry, accomplishes much towards a successful end.

Lysander W. Bell, confectioner, Elizabeth, Otter Tail county, was born on April 23, 1847, in the state of New York, and is a son of William and Betsy (Seeber) Bell. His education was obtained at the public schools of New York state, and later entered the high school at Brownville for two years, after which he spent three years in a woolen factory in Connecticut, at the end of which time he returned to New York, where he was employed by a lumber company for nine years, under the firm name of the New York Improvement Company. In 1884 he came to Fergus Falls, his brother, Hamilton, having settled there at an earlier date. They had a section of land in partnership and lived near Fergus Falls, coming to Elizabeth in 1887. Mr. Bell has always given his support to the Republican party. In local politics he has taken no active interest, having served as postmaster of Elizabeth for seventeen years, and town marshal for ten years; president of the town council for two years, and also served as village recorder for two years. He was insurance agent for the St. Paul Fire and Marine, and German-American, of New York, for eighteen years. Fraternally, he belongs to the Masonic blue lodge.

William Bell, father of Lysander W., was born in May, 1820, and died in January, 1897. He was united in marriage to Betsey Seeber, daughter of Henry W. and Susan (Overocker) Seeber. She was born in New York state. William Bell was educated at the public schools, and followed farming all his life, dying in New York state. The children born to this union were: Hamilton, Eliza, Susan, Mary, Emma and Alice. Mr. Bell did not take much interest in politics, but was an earnest churchman, officiating as an elder for about forty years.

The paternal grandfather was George Bell, whose wife was Margaret Buchanan, a first cousin of James Buchanan, the fifteenth President of the

United States. George Bell was a native of Ireland, and came to the United States in 1812, locating in New York state, where he followed farming, and was a neighbor of Grandfather Seeber. He came to America in a sailing vessel that was captured by the British, and was put in a fort on the defense for three years, being located at Nova Scotia, where he contracted a fever sore, which later resulted in his death. The children born to George and Margaret (Buchanan) Bell were as follow: James A., William, Robert, George, John and Mary. Robert Bell went to the Civil-War in Company I, Tenth New York Artillery, of which he was lieutenant. James Bell was a Republican, and became state senator for two terms, and was also state auditor for a period.

Henry W. Seeber, the maternal grandfather, was of Pennsylvania-Dutch descent, and was a native of Pennsylvania, and a blacksmith by trade. He went from Mohawk Valley, New York, to Jefferson county, New York state, where he followed farming until his death, which occurred at the age of ninety years. He was a member of the Methodist church. His wife was Susan Overocker.

Lysander W. Bell was united in marriage to Alda Perkins, daughter of Jenks Perkins, of New York state, where Mrs. Bell was born. This union has been blest with one son, Clark S., who was married to Matilda Zimmerman. Their home is at Elizabeth.

Mr. Bell is a man of strong characteristics, and a well balanced mind. He is well known and well liked throughout Otter Tail county, where he has long been a resident.

GABRIEL GILBERTSON.

Gabriel Gilbertson, farmer, Elizabeth township, Otter Tail county, was born on December 30, 1872, in Oscar township, in the county where he now resides, and is a son of Nelson Gilbertson. He received a good public school education in Oscar township, and has followed farming all his life, his present farm consisting of eighty acres of good agricultural land. In addition to his farming interests, Mr. Gilbertson has done threshing for the past twelve years, in which business he has employed the Hubber separator and engine; the grain raised on his own place being principally wheat.

Politically, Mr. Gilbertson is a stanch Democrat, and was road overseer for two years, although he has never run for office. Religiously, he belongs to the Lutheran church in Oscar township. He improved his farm in 1914 by building a new house; having erected a good, substantial barn three years previously. Mr. Gilbertson was also the heir to forty acres of good farm land, which was willed to him by the widow of his grandfather's brother, whose interests he looked after for nineteen years.

Nelson Gilbertson, father of Gabriel, was born in Norway, and was united in marriage with Gertrude Knutson in 1870, after which they came to America. The children born to this union were as follow: Ena, Sarah, deceased; Olivia, who lives in Washington state; Gabriel, Carl, Ole and Gina. Nels Gilbertson died about 1900, and his widow remained in Baker county. Nels Gilbertson came to Minnesota in 1870, where he began farming at the time when the grasshoppers took everything in sight. He filed on a homestead in Oscar township, consisting of one hundred and sixty acres, which he sold to advantage. Afterwards he rented a farm in Baker township, but died in a few years. His religious sympathies were with the Lutheran church.

Mr. Gilbertson has many sincere friends and acquaintances, and occupies a high place in the esteem of the entire community.

EDDIE N. NELSON.

Grain dealer, farmer and merchant, Eddie N. Nelson, a prosperous young citizen of Clitherall, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, was born on February 18, 1883, in Nidaros township. He is the son of Even and Anna (Halverson) Nelson, both of whom were born in Norway. Even Nelson was the son of Thorwald Nelson, who came to Minnesota in pioneer days and who died at Breckenridge. Mr. Nelson's maternal grandparents, Even and Ingeborg Halverson, came to America in 1871 and settled in Nidaros township, Otter Tail county, on a homestead farm of one hundred and sixty acres. It is there that the widow now lives. Her husband died in 1885.

Mr. Nelson's father came to Minnesota with his parents when still a small boy. He was married in this county and died in Nidaros township. His widow is living near Vining on a farm. Eddie N. Nelson was the only child born to his parents. After the death of his father, Mr. Nelson's mother was married to Edward Olson, and to them were born nine children, Inga, Fred, Carl, who died in infancy; Amelia, Eva, Wilma, Mabel, Hazel and Inez.

Eddie N. Nelson was reared on a farm and educated in the public schools of Vining and at Grand Forks, North Dakota, where he attended business college. He began working in the elevator and lumber yard at Eldridge and Medina, North Dakota. He later worked in the elevator at Sheyenne, North Dakota. In fact, Mr. Nelson was employed at Sheyenne from 1904 to 1913. He was also assistant cashier of the Farmers and Merchants Bank at Sheyenne during his residence at that place, also manager and secretary of the Equity Elevator and Trading Company for two years, from 1910 to 1912.

In 1913 Mr. Nelson made a trip to Arkansas, where he remained for a short time. He next lived at Borup, Norman county, Minnesota, and, after one year, in 1914, came to Clitherall and became the manager and secretary of the Clitherall Grain Association. Mr. Nelson owns a homestead farm in Benson county, North Dakota, a tract of eighty acres situated two miles from Sheyenne.

In 1904 Eddie N. Nelson was married to Pearl Colcord, who was born near Pittsburg, Kansas, March 4, 1888, and who is the daughter of Ivory A. and Elizabeth (Preston) Colcord, of Gravette, Arkansas. Mr. and Mrs. Eddie N. Nelson have three children, Arthur Evan, Lela Edith and Edgar Norman.

Fraternally, Mr. Nelson is a member of Century Lodge No. 60, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, at New Rockford, North Dakota. He is a Republican in politics and, while a resident of Sheyenne, North Dakota, was secretary of the Eddie county Republican central committee. For two years he was a member of the Republican state central committee.

In addition to his position as secretary and manager of the Clitherall Grain Association, Mr. Nelson is also engaged in the farm machinery business at Clitherall. He handles the Stillwater line of machinery and enjoys a good business in this community.

OLE P. NELSON.

Another one of the prosperous farmers of Inman township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, and one who has made his own way in the world since coming to America from Sweden is Ole P. Nelson.

Mr. Nelson, who is the owner of a fine farm of one hundred and sixty acres, was born in Sweden, March 15, 1859, and is a son of Pear and Hannah Nelson, both natives also of Sweden. The former died in his native country in 1905, while his wife had passed away five years previously, in 1900. Of the six children born to Pear and Hannah Nelson, Ole P., the subject of this review, is the eldest. Elma, Johanus and Martin, the three youngest children, are deceased. The other children are Johanna and Nels.

Ole P. Nelson received his education in the public schools of Sweden, and when he was twenty-eight years of age, in 1887, came to America and settled at Manchester, New Hampshire. After living at the latter place for two years, Mr. Nelson moved to Otter Tail county, in 1889, and until 1891 worked on various farms in the vicinity of Eagle Lake. In the latter year Mr. Nelson purchased eighty acres of land in section 12, Inman township, and since that time he has added forty acres in section 1, and forty acres in section 14, to his original holdings.

Mr. Nelson's wife, who died June 3, 1892, left four children, Maria, Martin Nels, Hulda Christena and George Albert, who are living at home with their father.

Mr. Nelson has substantial, well-kept buildings on his farm, and the farm is equal in productivity to any other tract in Inman township. He is rated in this township as a self-made man and a successful farmer and citizen.

JERRY F. JOHNSON.

One of the most prominent farmers of Otter Tail county and of Deer Creek township is Jerry F. Johnson, who, because of his interest in the community life and its advancement, together with his service to the township in public office and as a leader in political movement, has a place of importance in the ranks of the citizenship of the county and township. Successful in agricultural pursuits, useful as a citizen, capable in business and notably affiliated in church and fraternal circles, he is a type of manhood and citizenship who has done much for the county and its conditions of life.

Jerry F. Johnson was born in the northern part of Germany on February 7, 1865, the son of Frank and Martha (Hackman) Johnson, both of whom were born in Germany. His father died at Petersburg, Illinois, in 1873, and later his mother was married to Joseph Kester of Petersburg, Illinois. Frank Johnson was a devout member of the German Lutheran church of his native country, he taking an active part in the worship of that congregation. Frank and Martha Johnson were the parents of two children: Jerry F., of this sketch, and Jennie, who came to America and later was married to William Wahlfell, of Petersburg.

Jerry F. Johnson came to America in 1867, and after landing at New York City went to the state of Illinois, where he was educated. He located about twenty miles north of the city of Springfield, there hired out as a farm hand until the year 1885, when he went to the state of Nebraska and stayed with his mother, at Franklin, for more than a year and then he came to Otter Tail county, reaching this county with but ten cents in his pocket. The first two years in Otter Tail county, Jerry F. Johnson worked generally and then he bought eighty acres of uncleared land in section 36, Deer Creek township, paying for this land the sum of five dollars per acre, land which he cleared and improved with necessary buildings, later erecting a barn, twenty-four by forty feet. In later years he rebuilt his house and it is now a good, comfortable home. Mr. Johnson is now engaged in general farming, together with dairying and raising hogs and also as auctioneer in farm sales.

On April 10, 1890, Jerry F. Johnson was married to Alvina Leeseberg, and to this marriage have been born four children, Laura, Harry, Arthur and Walter, all of whom are unmarried. Mr. Johnson and his family are connected with the German Lutheran church.

In public life Jerry F. Johnson served for fifteen years as a supervisor; an efficient and able chairman of that body, who was instrumental in the movements for much of the county's civic progress. Mr. Johnson is a leading member of the Modern Woodmen of America lodge at Deer Creek, and is a man who in the various lines of activity in Deer Creek township has proved to the locality his great value as a citizen.

THOMAS CAREW.

Thomas Carew is a pioneer citizen of Otter Tail county, and has taken no small part in the development of the community's interests and resources, a man of broad experience in life. He is a citizen, who because of his public-spirited manner in local matters, has won a place of prominence and honor among his fellow citizens and associates.

Thomas Carew was born in Ontario, Canada, on December 19, 1840, the son of Thomas and Margaret (Sargent) Carew. Thomas Carew, Sr., was a native of Ireland and the son of Thomas Carew, who was born in Ireland and lived in that country until the year 1833, when with a colony of people sent out by the government of Great Britain, he came to Canada, locating at a settlement known as Peters Burrow, which received its name from Peter Robinson, who was at the head of the party who first reached the vicinity for residence. Grandfather Thomas Carew lived in Canada, where he owned a farm of one hundred and twenty acres, for the remainder of his days. He died in 1855; his wife, Esther (Golden) Carew surviving him and living to be more than one hundred years of age. Thomas and Esther Carew were the parents of five children, Samuel, Richard, John, Thomas, father of the subject of this sketch, and Robert. Thomas Carew and his family were all members of the Church of England.

Thomas Carew, Sr., father of the subject of this sketch, was educated in the public schools of Ireland, after which he went to Canada, there locating on a farm of one hundred acres, which he cultivated for the remainder of his active life. His first wife having died during the year 1862, he was again married, his second wife dying two years after their marriage. Thomas Carew, Sr., then came to Otter Tail county and lived with his son, Thomas, for some time and then later returned to his home in Canada, where he died in 1884.

Thomas Carew, the subject of this sketch, received his education in the

schools of Canada, after which he came to the state of Minnesota, and located, on October 4, 1865, at Red Wing, where he worked for four years as a driver of ox teams, work for which he was paid the sum of fifty dollars per month, from the proceeds of which he saved, during eighteen months, five hundred dollars, with which he bought personal property, which he later sold and then moved to Fergus Falls, Minnesota, where he took up a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres of land in section 27, Buse township, Otter Tail county, land which he improved, at first with crude buildings, then later replacing these structures with more substantial improvements. On this place Thomas Carew lived for some years and then selling his land he moved to Deer Creek township and invested in one hundred and sixty acres of land, where he now lives and engages in general farming together with dairying, he keeping about fifteen cows and twenty young cattle, which furnish for the market one hundred and twenty pounds of cream each week.

Thomas Carew is a man of many varied experiences in life, among the more interesting of which were his days as a trapper. Being unable to secure work at the town of Fergus Falls, on arriving there, he walked to the town of Alexandria, Minnesota, there spending four of his five dollars for traps with which he was able to catch, during the winter, more than eight hundred muskrats, as well as large numbers of other animals, having a market value. Following his season as a trapper, Mr. Carew built a kiln, from which he furnished the lime used in the first bank building of Fergus Falls. Many of the early buildings in Fergus Falls were made possible by the efforts of Mr. Carew, who furnished material and who later having learned the carpenter trade, devoted his time to a line of work which was not as yet plentiful in the community.

On October 15, 1867, Thomas Carew was married to Ella C. Parker, who was born in Trumbull county, Ohio, the daughter of James Parker and wife, James Parker being a farmer and country store keeper. To the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Carew were born four children, Ernest O., Arden A., James P., and Emily G., who is deceased. Ella, the wife of Thomas Carew, died on November 23, 1886, survived by her husband and three children.

In the various lines of activity represented in Deer Creek township, few men have taken a more important or more helpful part than has Thomas Carew, who, though now seventy-five years of age and having served his community long and well, is yet interested and active in all those things which promote the welfare of the locality. In public office Mr. Carew has a long and honorable record, having served the township as school treasurer for thirty years, during which time he was instrumental in an effort which resulted in the building of three school houses. For sixteen years Mr.

Carew was township clerk, and for four years he was justice of the peace. He also enumerated the census of the town of Deer Creek for the government, three times in forty years. As a church worker, Mr. Carew has been active, having served for many years as superintendent of the Sunday school of the Methodist Episcopal church at Deer Creek. In the business world he is well known as a shareholder in the Farmers Store at Nanola, Minnesota, and also as stockholder in the Henning Creamery Company, at Henning, Minnesota.

NELS PARSON.

Successful as a farmer in Clitherall township, Otter Tail county, Nels Parson is one of the best-known young men in the county. He was born on the farm where he now lives on January 29, 1874, and is the son of Par and Ealna (Olson) Parson, who were born at Skona, Sweden, the former on November 14, 1831, and the latter on January 3, 1832.

Mr. Parson's father was married in his native land and came to America with his first wife, about 1870. They settled on the farm now occupied by Nels Parson and which is situated in sections 21 and 22. Here he built a house and was just well started in the world, when his wife died. After her death in 1872, he was married to Ealna Olson and continued to live on the same farm. Mr. Parson's mother had come alone to America about 1871. When the Parson family settled in this vicinity, the country was covered with Indian trails and abounded in wild animals. On the southern part of the farm about forty rods from the house, the Indians had a camping ground and they were always friendly. Mr. Parson broke his land and cleared the timber from the farm and lived here until his death on November 5, 1914. Mr. Parson's mother is still living and enjoying good health. She is a member of the Lutheran church, as was also her husband.

By his first marriage, Par Parson had two daughters, Ellen, who married Edwin Lundby and lives in Clitherall township, and Hannah, who married Ole Peterson and lives in Eagle Lake township. To the second marriage, there were also born two children, Nels, the subject of this sketch, and Sadie, who married Andie Okerlund and lives at Kelliher, Minnesota.

Nels Parson received a common-school education and was reared on his father's farm. He has been practically in charge of the farm since he was sixteen years old. In 1897 he purchased the farm and has continued to live here. All of the buildings have been improved and repaired. Mr. Parson is a general farmer and stockman and makes a specialty of raising dairy cattle. At the present time, he has ten or twelve head of cows. He also generally keeps a herd for feeding.

On September 16, 1898, Mr. Parson was married to Anna Nelson, a native of Sweden and the daughter of Nels and Ellen (Nelson) Johnson. Mrs. Parson's father is still living, but her mother died in Sweden. Mrs. Parson came to America with one brother and two sisters. Mr. and Mrs. Parson are the parents of eight children, Victoria, Anton, Lincoln, Lillian, Ruth and Ruben, twins; Anna, and Mabel.

Mr. Parson is identified with the Republican party in political matters. He has served in various school offices and has also served as road overseer. Mr. and Mrs. Parson are members of the Swedish Lutheran church.

LOTH HOLM.

Enjoying distinctive prestige as an adopted citizen and agriculturist of Parkers Prairie township, Otter Tail county, the gentleman whose history follows, is a descendant of Swedish ancestry, and who first looked upon the light in the land of his forefathers, now represents substantial industry and progressiveness in America, which has for many years been his home.

Loth Holm, farmer, Parkers Prairie township, Otter Tail county, was born on April 2, 1855, in Sweden, and is a son of Swan and Anna (Nelson) Holm. His education was obtained at the public schools of his native country, where he followed farming, and was for a time engaged in railroad work, coming, in 1881, to the United States, arriving on June 3, of that year. The first year of his citizenship in this country was spent at Stillwater, Minnesota, and in July, 1882, he came to Otter Tail county, where he bought his present farm, to which he afterward added forty acres more. Mr. Holm divides his attention between general farming and the breeding of thoroughbred Poland China hogs, of which he has some very fine specimens. He has put all the improvements on his place, including a commodious barn, erected in 1915, and is now building a substantial modern dwelling. Politically, he is a Republican, but has never taken an active interest in local politics. Religiously, his membership is with the Swedish Lutheran church.

Swan and Anna (Nelson) Holm, parents of Loth, were both born in Sweden, where they lived and died. They were farmers, and were the parents of seven children, Loth being the only one to come to America.

Loth Holm was united in marriage, in 1889 to Lizzie Rosenquest, by whom he has had seven children—Melvin, Anna, Hilma, Agnes, Marie, Reuben and Erne. Mrs. Holm died on September 23, 1907, and the daughter, Agnes, died three years later.

Mr. Holm holds the respect of the entire community in which he makes his home, and where he has reared the children to be useful and honored citizens.

GEORGE HUGGETT.

One of the best-known and most highly respected farmers and citizens of Girard township, Otter Tail county, is George Huggett, who was born at Levanna, Cayuga county, New York, October 14, 1852, and who is the son of William and Rebecca (Warden) Huggett.

Mr. Huggett's father was a native of Surrey, England, born on August 9, 1822, and his mother was a native of Sussex, England, born on November 8, 1825. They were married on January 1, 1850, in England, and, on April 1, of the same year, started for America. They landed in New York city after a voyage of five weeks and subsequently settled in Cayuga county, New York. In 1856 they immigrated to Wisconsin and located in Dodge county. In 1867 they moved to Waupaca county and here Mrs. Rebecca Huggett died in 1869. In 1878 Mr. Huggett moved to Douglas county, Minnesota, trading his Wisconsin farm for land in Douglas county. In 1882 he took a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres in South Dakota and there lived a short time, after which he moved to St. Paul, Minnesota, where he died on July 12, 1906. During the Civil War, he served in the Thirty-second Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry for nine months. His wife was a member of the Methodist church, but he was a member of the Congregational church. They were the parents of eight children, of whom one, Martin R., died in 1902. The living children are, George, Mary J., P. W., Etta E., Sarah Jane, Anna E. and Rebecca A.

George Huggett attended school only about one hundred days in his whole life, in Dodge county, Wisconsin. When he was fifteen years old, he moved with his parents to Waupaca county, Wisconsin, and there, in 1875, he was married to Mary A. Shelly, who was born in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, September 25, 1854. She was the daughter of Volney K. and Elizabeth (Denning) Shelly, who lived at Hartford, Wisconsin, where she was born. Mrs. Huggett's father was a native of New York, and died at Mattoon, in Shawano county, Wisconsin. Mr. and Mrs. George Huggett have twelve children, Mary E., Martha A., George W., Maud A. and Melvin T., twins; William V., Olive, Jennie, Martin R., Earl, Bessie and Blanche. Mrs. George Huggett died on March 17, 1905, and in June, 1906, Mr. Huggett was married to Mrs. Mary Fulton, of Oconto, in Oconto county, Wisconsin.

On February 17, 1878, Mr. Huggett came to Douglas county, Minnesota, and in June of that year, he purchased a farm of one hundred and fifty-eight acres in St. Olaf township, Otter Tail county, adding to this farm until he owned at one time three hundred and fifty-four acres of land. Mr. Huggett lived upon this farm until 1906 when he moved to Fergus Falls,

where he lived for three years. In 1909 he moved to Girard township, where he owns four hundred acres of land, which he has greatly improved. Mr. Huggett has a fine residence, which he built in 1914. He is well known in Girard township as a stock breeder, specializing in Shropshire sheep and Duroc-Jersey hogs.

Mr. Huggett served as a member of the St. Olaf township board for seven years and, for six years, was chairman of the board of supervisors in Girard township. He is a Republican in politics and has been active in local politics all of his life. For three years he was a director of the local schools and for twenty-two years, was treasurer of the school corporation. He is president of the local Farmers Society of Equity and is also president of the Henning Shipping Association.

OTHO A. AUSTIN.

Otho A. Austin, a retired citizen of New York Mills, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, was born in Montgomery county, Indiana, on March 2, 1856. Mr. Austin is the son of Theodore and Susan (Keely) Austin, the former of whom was born in Dutchess county, New York, July 27, 1813, and the latter in Pennsylvania, September 18, 1818. Mr. Austin's maternal grandfather was Henry Keely.

After their marriage in the Keystone state, Theodore and Susan (Keely) Austin immigrated to Montgomery county, Indiana. Theodore Austin was a pattern-maker by trade. He came to Otter Tail county in 1873, driving through from Illinois. After living for one summer in Newton township he returned to Illinois, but in 1875 came back to Newton township, driving overland once more. He died in Otter Tail county on February 12, 1898, and his wife died in this county on October 30, 1901. They were the parents of five children: Theron (deceased), Grace, Henry (deceased), Jerome and Otho.

Otho A. Austin was reared principally in Indiana. When he was thirteen years old he moved to Potomac, Illinois, and, on May 10, 1873, came to Otter Tail county with his parents. He returned to the state of Illinois but later, on December 30, 1875, came back to Otter Tail county, and in 1877 took a homestead of eighty acres in section 28, Newton township. Subsequently, however, Mr. Austin gave up this homestead in Newton township. His father had taken a homestead of forty acres and Otho A. bought his father's interest. Later he sold out and moved to New York Mills.

On March 2, 1882, Mr. Austin began work as a bookkeeper in the general mercantile store of Olof Pary. After working for Mr. Pary for twelve years, Mr. Austin purchased a farm of one hundred and sixty acres



OTHO A. AUSTIN.

in section 27, of Homestead township. Gradually he improved this farm and with his family lived on the farm for twenty years. However, he finally sold out and returned to New York Mills. In 1915 he erected a splendid residence in New York Mills, where he now lives. Mr. Austin has bought and sold a great deal of property in Otter Tail county. He became postmaster on January 15, 1898, and was postmaster for over fourteen years in succession. He has also served on the school board in New York Mills and was also village recorder for a number of years. He has also served as president of the village. In politics, Mr. Austin is identified with the Republican party.

Otho A. Austin's wife, before her marriage, was Grace Green, who was born in Sweden. Her parents died when she was a child and she was adopted by a Mr. Green. Her father's name, however, was Peterson. Mr. and Mrs. Austin are the parents of eight children, all of whom are living, Susie, who is the wife of Orlo Wilcox, of North Dakota; Fannie I., who is the wife of W. P. Telin, of New York Mills; Stanley A., who homesteaded land in Montana in 1913; Theodore E., Clarence A., Ralph H., Mae B. and Grace Lois.

PETER PETERSEN.

Peter Petersen, a prosperous farmer of Inman township, Otter Tail county, was born October 1, 1863, in Sweden, and is a son of Peter and Ellen Petersen, both of whom were born and reared in Sweden. Mr. Petersen's father died in 1874, at the age of fifty years, and his mother in 1913, at the age of eighty-three. There were seven children born to Peter Petersen and wife, of whom Andrew, Daniel, Elsie and Mary are deceased. The living children are Martin, Peter and Olof.

Peter Petersen received his educational training in the public schools of his native land, and when twenty-three years old, in 1886, came to America, and settled at Deer Creek, in Otter Tail county. For a number of years he worked on neighboring farms. Later, he took up contract work and was engaged in this for several years. Finally, Mr. Petersen engaged in farming, and in 1910, purchased eighty acres of land in section 11, Inman township. This farm is now known as the Nels Isakson farm. Mr. Petersen carries on a general system of farming and stock raising, and has been very successful in this vocation since coming to America.

In 1910 Mr. Petersen was married to Mrs. Nels Isakson, the widow of Nels Isakson, who was a son of Isaac and Betsey Johnson, mentioned elsewhere in this work. By her first marriage to Nels Isakson, Mrs. Petersen became the mother of six children, Esther, Roy, Nina, Arthur, Mabel and

Alice. Peter Petersen and wife are the parents of two children, Nels and Ruby.

Mr. and Mrs. Petersen are earnest members of the Swedish Lutheran church. Mr. Petersen has been more or less prominent in local politics ever since coming to this county, and is now clerk of the local school board.

Mrs. Petersen, before her marriage to Nels Isakson, was the daughter of Ole I. and Rebecca (Halverson) Saetre, both of whom were natives of Norway. Mrs. Petersen's father was born in 1845, and died in Norway in 1893. Her mother was born in 1847, and in March, 1914, came to Otter Tail county, Minnesota, and is now living with her son, Hans O. Saetre, proprietor of a well-known hotel and livery in Otter Tail county. Ole I. and Rebecca (Halverson) Saetre were the parents of four sons and three daughters, all of whom are living. The sons are Hans O., Ivar, John and Peter. The daughters are Mary, Lena and Minnie.

HANS NESVOLD.

Hans Nesvold is one of three children born of the union of Peter Nesvold and Mary Norman and his birth occurred on February 11, 1863, in Norway, the native home of his parents. Peter Nesvold immigrated to America in 1881 and arrived in Fergus Falls, Minnesota, on August 11 of that year. Three years following his arrival in the United States, he purchased eighty acres of land on which he has since resided. The names of his three children are: Lovna, Hans and Hannah. The paternal grandparents of Hans Nesvold were Lawrence and Ellen Nesvold, both natives of Norway who lived and died in their native country. The maternal grandparents of Hans Nesvold also lived and died in their native land of Norway.

Hans Nesvold is indebted to the schools of his native land for the education which he received, following which he engaged in agricultural pursuits in connection with his parents. He has always resided under the parental roof-tree and, for the past eleven years, has had the entire management of the home place. He has erected the present buildings and has been instrumental in effecting many improvements, which have added to the value of the farm.

Mary (Norman) Nesvold, mother of Hans Nesvold, passed away in 1904, leaving her husband and three children to mourn her loss. Hans Nesvold was married to Mary Hanson in 1905. Mary (Hanson) Nesvold is a native of Tumuli township, Otter Tail county, but was reared and educated in Polk county, Minnesota. To the union of Mary (Hanson) Nesvold and her husband five children have been born: Edna, Henry, Alice, Albert and

Robert. All members of this family are affiliated with the Norwegian Lutheran church and are actively engaged in the furtherance of the creeds of that denomination. Hans Nesvold is much respected and well liked among his many friends and associates.

CHARLES SCHEER.

Charles Scheer was born in Dodge county, Wisconsin, July 22, 1859, the son of Henry and Wilhelmina Louisa Scheer, who were natives of Germany, in which country they lived until the year 1855, when with his family Henry Scheer came to America and settled in Dodge county, Wisconsin, where he owned a small farm and followed general agricultural pursuits. In 1877 Henry Scheer came to Otter Tail county, Minnesota, here securing a farm on which he lived until his death in the month of May, 1900, having been preceded in death by his wife, who died in 1896. Henry and Wilhelmina Scheer were the parents of the following children: Augusta, who married Fred Schacht and who later died near Elizabeth, Minnesota; Henry, who died near Erhard, Minnesota, in 1915; Louise, who married Louis Candaux and lives in Elizabeth township; Charles, the subject of this sketch; August, who lives a retired life in Elizabeth township, and William, who died when twenty years of age, the latter two being twins.

Charles Scheer was educated in the public schools of Dodge county, Wisconsin, and in the common schools of Otter Tail county, Minnesota, after which he worked on the farm of his father for some years and then was given as a homestead the railroad land which was owned by his father, land to which Charles Scheer added by purchase until at the time of his death this prosperous and successful farmer was the owner of four hundred and forty acres of choice land, all well improved with modern buildings, and cultivated to a degree of high productiveness.

On August 1, 1888, Charles Scheer was married to Elizabeth Wasmuth, who was born in Germany, October 6, 1863, the daughter of Conrad and Elizabeth (Hoffman) Wasmuth, they being natives of Germany, in which country they lived their entire lives, Conrad Wasmuth having been a landowner and farmer. To the marriage of Charles and Elizabeth Scheer were born the following children: Anna, who married Neil White and lives in New Zealand; William, who lives on the old home farm in Erhard's Grove township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota; Mary, who was educated in the Pelican Rapids high school, from which she graduated in the year 1910, later attending and graduating from the Moorhead Normal College, in the year 1913, and is now a teacher in the schools at Fessenden, North Dakota; Ida, who was educated at the Moorhead Normal College, after which she

taught school in Otter Tail county, Minnesota, for two years; Rosa, who is a stenographer at Fargo, North Dakota, and Charles and Esther who live at home.

Charles Scheer was a member and active worker in the German Evangelical church at Erhard, Minnesota, a congregation in which he was generally honored and appreciated for his efforts and support of the work and worship of this denomination.

In politics Charles Scheer was an ardent Republican, and though he took no especial part in the political life of the township and county, he was known as a man who had no small part in the development of the community, through his successful efforts as a private citizen endeavoring to make his life of value in all possible ways.

Charles Scheer died on June 26, 1912, mourned by all who knew of his forceful and beneficent life, lived not alone for himself but for all.

JOHN KNUTSON.

Typical of the citizen of Norway who comes to this country and makes of himself a valued and appreciated part of the life of this nation, is John Knutson, the subject of this sketch. Hardy, persevering, resourceful, and determined in the effort to realize an ambition, and industrious, tactful and progressive, this type of citizenship which is fairly represented by John Knutson, has taken an important part in the life of Otter Tail county.

John Knutson was born in Norway, on January 7, 1859, the son of Knut and Mary (Youngson) Ellefson, who were natives of Norway, where Knut Ellefson was a farmer during his entire life.

After his education in the schools of his native country, John Knutson, the subject of this sketch, learned the trade of a shoemaker, a line of work which he followed for ten years. In 1880 he came to America and located in St. Olaf township, Otter Tail county, where he worked as a farmer for some time. During 1884, he bought one hundred and twenty acres of land and, later, bought a farm of one hundred and sixty acres of land, together with sixty acres of timber land, and he is engaged in general agricultural pursuits.

In 1882, John Knutson was married to Christie Ingebretson, to this marriage there being born the following children: Minnie, Engebret, Carl, Carrie, Julia, Edward, Torkel, Clarence, Andrew, Gena, Bennie, Clifford and Alice. John Knutson and his family are members of, and active workers in, the Norwegian Lutheran church of Dalton, Minnesota.

Mr. Knutson is an ardent Republican and while he supports his party faithfully, is ready at all times to join with any other party or movement

which will aid in the life or conditions of the community. John Knutson and his wife, together with his family, are among the respected and esteemed people of the township and county, their part in the progress and development of the locality and its resources being well known.

L. C. NICHOLSON.

L. C. Nicholson was born on September 20, 1875, in Lee county, Illinois, the son of Thomas and Ann (Burrows) Nicholson, both natives of England. Thomas Nicholson was born in 1826 and his wife was born in 1830. They grew to maturity and married in their native land and, some years later, immigrated to America in a sailing ship. Thomas Nicholson had formerly been to America and had purchased a tract of government land while here. He had then returned to England by way of California, in 1849, and on to Australia, returning to America with his bride. They located in Lee county, Illinois, with the intention of cultivating the farm which he had formerly purchased, but, to his dismay, was informed that it had been disposed of by well-meaning friends who were positive that he had been killed by the Indians. He then purchased two hundred acres of timber and prairie land in Lee county, on which he still resides. He is one of the pioneers of that community.

Nearly twenty years ago Thomas Nicholson retired from active farming and the management of the place was assumed by his son, Joseph, who makes a specialty of breeding and raising Guernsey cattle and mule-footed hogs and is one of the leading agriculturists of that section. Thomas Nicholson and his wife were formerly members of the Episcopal church but he is now a member of the Congregational church. She died in 1893. The names of their ten children follow: Lizzie married Edward Slack and their home is in Chicago; Mary is the wife of John Richardson and they live in Compton, Illinois; Thomas is engaged in the livery business and lives in Amboy, Illinois; William is a farmer and his home is near Pickford, Michigan; Maggie lives at home; Lincoln is a farmer and was last heard of in Arizona; Sarah is the wife of Lincoln Trent and their home is in Chicago, Illinois; Joseph lives on the home place; L. C., the subject of this sketch; Ed is a farmer and lives in Dunn township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota.

L. C. Nicholson was educated in the schools of Lee county, Illinois, following which he operated the home place, in partnership with his brother, Joseph, for one year and then rented a place for himself. This farm he retained until 1910 and then removed to Floyd county, Iowa, where he purchased eighty acres of land on which he remained for three years. In the

spring of 1913, he came to Otter Tail county, Minnesota and purchased one hundred and fifty-six acres in section 36, it being the old Barney Phillips place. This farm is devoted to general agriculture and stock raising.

MARCUS P. MAURIN.

Marcus P. Maurin is one of the representative business men of Elizabeth, Otter Tail county, and has taken great interest in the civic affairs of the community. His birth occurred on February 8, 1876, in Elizabeth, Otter Tail county. He was educated in the public schools of his native town during the early years of his life, later becoming a student in St. John's University for two years, from 1891 until 1893. Upon the completion of his student days, he became connected with the business interests which his father had established and in which he has continued until the present time. This business was incorporated in 1912, and since that time Marcus P. Maurin has acted in the capacity of secretary and treasurer. He is also administrator of his father's estate.

On April 6, 1910, Marcus P. Maurin was united in marriage to Irene Barron, and they are the parents of one child, Marcus P. Maurin, Jr., who was born on February 13, 1914. Irene (Barron) Maurin was born on September 12, 1891, and was the daughter of Harry and Bertha (Lill) Barron. Her death occurred on February 25, 1914.

Marcus P. Maurin is a member of the Catholic church and also a member of the Catholic Order of Foresters. Politically, he is a staunch supporter of the Democratic party.

OTTO A. FURNES.

Otto A. Furnes, a successful farmer of Otter Tail county, was born at Skage, north of Trondhjem, Norway, March 27, 1864, and is a son of Alexander and Dorothy (Lestum) Furnes, who were also natives of that same country. Mrs. Dorothy Furnes died in her native land and her husband is still living in that country, where he is a farmer and where he formerly owned land. He is now living retired. Alexander Furnes and wife were the parents of thirteen children, as follow: Olava, Erin, who died in infancy; Erin H, Otto A., Matheas, Samuel, Andreas, Anna, Axel, Dorothy, Johanna, Adolph, and Sophia, who died in infancy. Eleven children of this family are still living, and ten of them live in Norway. Andreas, who spent some time in America, returned to his native land after a visit to Washington and Alaska.

Otto A. Furnes was educated in the public schools of his native land and emigrated to America in 1887. After landing in New York City,

March 27, 1887, he went to Thompson, Minnesota, where he worked in a saw-mill for about a year and one-half. Subsequently, however, he removed to Otter Tail county, and worked on farms in the neighborhood of where he first located, continuing at farm work for a number of years. In 1894 he purchased a farm of eighty acres in Tordenskjold township, but lived on an adjoining farm and worked by the month. In 1909 he bought the farm of one hundred and twenty acres where he now lives, and which adjoins his original eighty-acre farm. Mr. Furnes is engaged in general farming and has been very successful in the raising of all crops common to this region.

In 1898 Otto A. Furnes returned to Norway, and was there married to Mrs. Maria Ecker, a native of Norway, and the daughter of Andreas Hummer. Ten years after their marriage, in 1908, Mr. and Mrs. Furnes returned to Norway for a visit among their relatives and friends. They are the parents of two children, Johannes and Dagne.

Since coming to America Mr. Furnes has been actively identified with the Republican party, and has been more or less prominent in its councils in his locality. He is a good farmer, a good citizen and a good neighbor.

KNUT GUNDERSON.

Knut Gunderson was born near Christiania, Norway, March 26, 1863, the son of Gunder and Berit (Johannesdatter) Torgenson, who were born in that same neighborhood and there married. In the year 1885 they came to America and settled in Folden township, this county, where they bought eighty acres of uncleared and unimproved land, which Gunder Torgenson cleared and on which he built a house and other buildings necessary for comfort and for convenience. Gunder and Berit Torgenson lived on this place until the year 1902, when Gunder Torgenson died during the month of September, his wife Berit having preceded him in death by only six months. To the marriage of Gunder and Berit Torgenson were born the following children: Gunhild, who lives in Folden township; Torger, who is a farmer of Folden township; Olena, who married Gule Vatnos and lives in Folden township; Martha, who married Elef Olson and lives in Folden township; Kari, who married Andrew Olson and lives in Folden township; Knut, the subject of this sketch, and Jennie, who married Chris Gordon and lives at Brainerd, Minnesota.

Knut Gunderson was educated and spent his boyhood days in his native land. In 1882, three years before the coming of his parents, he came to America and went to the state of Wisconsin, where he lived for two years and then, in the year 1884, he came to the state of Minnesota and settled in Otter Tail county, where he bought one hundred and sixty acres of unim-

proved land in Folden township, land which he cleared and improved by the erection of a house and other buildings, structures which are yet in use.

During the year 1888, Knut Gunderson was married to Maria Rakstad, who was born in Fillmore county, Minnesota, May 17, 1872, the daughter of Peter and Betsey (Severson) Rakstad, who were natives of Norway, and who at an early date came to America and to Fillmore county, Minnesota, where they settled and in the year 1883 came to Folden township.

To Knut and Maria Gunderson were born the following children: Ouidja, who married Olaf Johnson and lives at Colfax, North Dakota; Gunda, who died in infancy; Gunda, who married Clarence Boles, and lives at Colfax, North Dakota; Olga, who is deceased; Petra, who married Oscar Olson, a farmer who lives at Parkers Prairie, this county; Gunder, who died at the age of sixteen years; Matilda, Thea, Nettie, Orve and Hazel.

Knut Gunderson and his wife are devout members of the Lutheran church at Folden, a congregation in which they are respected and appreciated members. In politics, Mr. Gunderson is an ardent Republican.

RUDOLPH JACOBSON.

Rudolph Jacobson is a successful young farmer of Otter Tail county, Minnesota, who was born at Calumet, Michigan, July 21, 1883, where his parents, Hogen and Karen (Hendrickson) Jacobson, who were natives of Norway, had settled after coming to America. They had been married, however, after arriving in the United States. Mr. Jacobson's father, who had taken up mining for about twenty years after his marriage, lived at Calumet, Michigan, for about thirty-two years, and then followed the painter's trade for about twelve years. In 1899 he emigrated to Otter Tail county, Minnesota, where he purchased a farm of one hundred and sixty-five acres in Tordenskjold township. After having settled on his farm in this county, he cleared and drained a considerable portion of it, erected modern buildings upon the farm, and here he lived until his death in 1911. His wife, the mother of Mr. Jacobson, is still living.

The late Hogen Jacobson was an ardent temperance worker, and was a charter member of the first Norwegian temperance society in America. This association was organized in 1874. As a matter of fact, there was a society organized in New York City by Adolph Peterson in 1873, but this was a Swedish temperance society. The late Hogen Jacobson was treasurer of the Norwegian temperance society from the time of its organization until he left the state of Michigan. He was a member of the Lutheran church in Calumet, and his wife is a member of the same denomination in Otter Tail county. Mr. and Mrs. Hogen Jacobson were the parents of nine chil-

dren: Albert, a machinist of Minneapolis; Barney, a resident of Jennings, Michigan, is engaged in railroad work; Leonard, the third in order of birth, whose whereabouts are unknown; Rudolph, the immediate subject of this sketch; Hjelmar, who died in infancy; Samuel, who died at the age of sixteen years; Clara married Victor Bosquet and they live at Maddock, North Dakota; Laura and Flora, both living at home with their mother.

Rudolph Jacobson received his education in the public schools of Calumet, Michigan. After finishing his school training, he worked for a time on the farm and then worked at the machinist's trade in Minneapolis. Since 1911, however, he has been engaged in general farming and stock raising. Mr. Jacobson is unmarried. He is independent in politics and is a member of the Free Lutheran church.

JOHN CARLSON.

Among the well-known merchants of Otter Tail county, Minnesota, and especially among the successful hardware dealers of the county, is John Carlson, who is the proprietor of a prosperous business at Almora.

Mr. Carlson is a native of Norway, where he was born on November 4, 1874. He is the son of Carl and Anna (Amundson) Olson, both of whom were natives of Norway, being born in 1845 and 1848, respectively. They came to Wisconsin in 1881 and settled in Polk county in July, of that year. A little later they moved to Barron county, Wisconsin, and purchased eighty acres of land. There the family lived until 1900, at which time Mr. Olson came to Otter Tail county, Minnesota. He purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land in Elmo township. After selling this farm, he purchased forty acres in the same township, where he has lived ever since 1902. He is now retired. To Carl and Anna (Amundson) Olson were born six children, Amund, Anton, John, Peter, Ole (deceased) and Anna.

John Carlson was reared on a farm in Barron county, Wisconsin, and lived there until nineteen years of age, attending the public schools of Barron county. When Mr. Carlson was nineteen years old, he was employed as a clerk and as a tinner at Rice Lake, Wisconsin, for one and one-half years. Later he moved to Prairie Farm, in Barron county, Wisconsin, and acted as manager of a general store for two and one-half years. He then engaged in the grocery and confectionery business in the same place and remained in business until 1903, when he came to Parkers Prairie, in Otter Tail county. He acted as clerk for John P. Post in his general store for three years and then moved to Almora, Minnesota, in September, 1908, and engaged in the general mercantile and hardware business. Some years ago Mr. Carlson erected a splendid building in which his business is housed. The structure

is forty-two by sixty feet. Mr. Carlson has been very successful and has a large and growing patronage in this community.

In 1898 John Carlson was married to Linnie Elseth, who was born at Menomonie, Wisconsin, in 1878. She died in 1903. Three years later, Mr. Carlson was married to Mina Olson, of Otter Tail county. She was born in Parkers Prairie in 1887, the daughter of Paul and Mary (Erickson) Olson. They were natives of Norway and in 1870 came to Parkers Prairie township, Otter Tail county, and homesteaded land, where they lived for forty-three years. During the last two years they have lived at Clitherall. Mrs. Carlson's mother died in 1894.

By his first marriage, Mr. Carlson was the father of one child, Verna Ovedia. By his second marriage there were born two children, Elnora and Parmer.

The Carlsons are members of the Norwegian Lutheran church. Mr. Carlson is a stockholder in the Almora Co-operative Creamery Company and has served as clerk of the building committee when several of the school buildings in this vicinity have been erected. He is known in this county as a prosperous, influential and popular citizen.

HERMAN BURAU.

Herman Burau, deceased, was born on December 15, 1847, in Germany, and after the death of his father, came with his mother to America and settled in Otter Tail county, Minnesota, where he took up a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres, to which he later added forty acres more, making in all, two hundred acres at the time of his death. He was a blacksmith by trade, and conducted a shop at Elizabeth, being the first blacksmith in the town. He was a very progressive and prosperous man, and was an earnest member of the German Lutheran church. Mr. Burau put valuable improvements on his homestead, including a substantial house, which was built thirty-eight years ago.

On October 21, 1868, Herman Burau was married to Mary Nigler, daughter of Rudolph and Elizabeth (Arn) Nigler. She was born on January 17, 1850, in Switzerland, and came with her parents to America in 1852. To Herman and Mary (Nigler) Burau were born the following children: Rose, Mary, Charles, Helen, Emma, Bertha, Herman, Frank, John and Raymond, all of whom are now living. Rose Burau became the wife of Peter Wilmes and resides at Glen Ullin, North Dakota; Charles was married to Minnie Godfrey, and resides at Elizabeth; Helen became the wife of E. A. Forder and resides at Chisholm, Minnesota; Emma was married to Joseph Miller and lives at Elgin, North Dakota; Bertha is now Mrs. James Williams

and lives at Grand Forks, North Dakota; Herman was married to Martha Becker and lives at Elizabeth, Minnesota; John was united in marriage with Anna Johnson; Rose Burau, the eldest of this family of children, was the first white child born in Otter Tail county, Minnesota; the others were all born on the home place.

Frank Burau, the eighth child of Herman and Mary (Nigler) Burau, was born on April 26, 1885, at Elizabeth, Minnesota, and is unmarried. He lives on the old homestead and takes care of the place, which is located a quarter of a mile from Elizabeth. He is one of the progressive and up-to-date farmers of Otter Tail county, possessing a keen foresight along the lines of agriculture.

Rudolph and Elizabeth (Arn) Nigler, parents of Mrs. Herman Burau, were both born in Switzerland, and came to America in 1852, locating first in Ohio and from there they moved to Minneapolis, Minnesota, where Mr. Nigler was engaged in business for several years, conducting a general store and a hotel, finally coming to Elizabeth in 1868, and taking up a homestead one and one-half miles west of that town. The farm consisted of one hundred and sixty acres, and was their home until their death. Politically, Mr. Nigler was a Democrat, and always took an active part in local politics. Both Mr. Nigler and his wife were members of the Lutheran church, and it was through him that the town of Elizabeth, Minnesota, was started, the place being named for his wife, Elizabeth (Arn) Nigler. They were the parents of the following children: Louise, Mary Ann, Rose, Minnie, Mary, Adolph and Edward; and reared Andrew, an adopted child.

JAMES DAVIS.

James Davis is a native of Otsego county, New York, and his birth occurred on November 26, 1825. He is one of thirteen children born to the union of Ezra Davis and Sabra Somers, both natives of Otsego county, New York, having been born near the town of Cherry Valley. The names of their children follow: Anna Maria, Roswald, Joel, John, Andrew, James, Ezra, Rhoda, Sally, Elmira and Louisa. Two other children are deceased.

James Davis became an employee in a cotton factory near New Berlin, Otsego county, New York, at the age of eight years and remained as an employee of that institution until the age of twenty-two. By close economy he had saved some money and with it removed to Wisconsin, where he purchased forty acres of land near Waupun, Dodge county, Wisconsin, and engaged in agricultural pursuits for nearly six years. He then sold the farm and removed to Houston county, Minnesota, where he located for a

short time only, finally removing to Mower county, where he purchased eighty acres of land. In 1861 he enlisted in Company K, Fourth Regiment, Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, in which company he served as a musician for three years. He was present at the battles of Iuka, Corinth and at the siege of Vicksburg, also at the battle of Black River bridge. While stationed at Vicksburg, Mississippi, he was taken ill with fever and for two weeks received treatment in a field hospital. After his recovery from this illness he joined his regiment at Lookout Mountain, Tennessee, where he was engaged in picket duty along the railroad. He also marched with Sherman to the sea, returning home from Savannah, Georgia, by the way of New York City. Immediately upon his return to Minnesota, he again engaged in agricultural pursuits which he has continued to the present time.

On April 4, 1847, James Davis was united in marriage to Evelyn Cronkhite, daughter of Jeremiah Cronkhite, and of their union eight children were born: Lucy, Frances, Cyrus, James, Jeremiah, Joel, Alva and Malina. Lucy married Austin Laughlin and her death occurred in Maine township, this county; Frances is the widow of George Plowman and resides in Becker county, Minnesota; Cyrus left the parental roof many years ago and his whereabouts is unknown; James is a drayman and makes his home in California; Jeremiah is engaged in farming near Harlowton, Montana; Joel resides at Gillette, Montana; Alva lives in California, and Malina makes her home in Becker, Minnesota, where she lives with her husband, Finneas Austin. Evelyn (Cronkhite) Davis was married at New Berlin, Chenango county, New York, and after forty-three years of service to her family passed away on April 9, 1866, leaving her husband and eight children to mourn her loss.

On November 28, 1867, James Davis was married, secondly, to Eliza Epler, the daughter of Joseph and Hannah (Cressey) Epler, and to this union ten children were born: Sophia, David C., Mattie (deceased), Ervin E., John E., Nelson, Lilly May, Clara, Custis (deceased) and Cora E. Sophia married Charles Clintsman and they live in section 2 in Amor township, this county; David C. is a merchant in Dead Lake township; Ervin is a farmer living in Amor township; John E. is a traveling salesman and his home is in Minneapolis, Minnesota; Lilly May died at the age of nineteen years; Clara married John A. Gaylord and lives in Amor township; Cora E. is the wife of John L. Bixby and lives in Dead Lake township, this county. The maternal grandparents of these children removed from New Jersey to Illinois and thence to Mower county, Minnesota, where their deaths occurred, Joseph Epler having died on April 20, 1880 and his wife, Hannah (Cressey) Epler, on February 17, 1899.

After his second marriage James Davis remained in Mower county, Minnesota, for some years but later moved to the town of Carpenter, Iowa, where he remained for eighteen months, removing to Otter Tail county, Minnesota, in the spring of 1878, where he purchased a homestead (soldier's right) in section 2, Amor township, consisting of one hundred and sixty acres. This was virgin land, uncleared and unimproved, but a small clearing was soon made in the woods near the river, and on this a cabin was built in which the family lived for six years. In addition to cultivating this farm, James Davis was engaged in other labors and has continued to reside on the one place until the present time. Eighty acres of the original homestead was sold and eighty acres retained. James Davis is independent in his political faith, reserving the right to cast his ballot in favor of the best man. Religiously James Davis and his wife are both members of the Seventh-Day Adventist church, which denomination receives their active co-operation and support.

DAVID C. DAVIS.

David C. Davis is one of ten children born to the union of James and Eliza (Epler) Davis, and his birth occurred on January 13, 1872, in Mower county, Minnesota. His education was received in the public schools of Otter Tail county, after which he became a student in the Park Region Lutheran College, returning to the home place at the completion of his student days. He purchased forty acres of government land in Dead Lake township on which he remained for five years. This land was unimproved but under the management of David C. Davis was soon ready for cultivation. After selling this farm he purchased eighty acres of the old homestead, which he cultivated for a period of ten years, trading same, in the spring of 1915, for eleven acres of Dead Lake property. This property included the Boswood store which carries a large stock of general merchandise.

On December 15, 1898, David C. Davis was united in marriage to Lulu Mills, daughter of Edward C. and Ella Harriett Mills, pioneers in Swift county, Minnesota. Lulu (Mills) Davis is a native of Swift county and her union has been blessed with four children: Vivy, Iva, Eva and Bessie Madge. Edward C. Mills was a farmer and a resident in former years, of Arkansas, removing to Otter Tail county, Minnesota, in 1893, later removing to Becker county, Minnesota, in 1902, where he still lives. He is a native of Vermont and his wife a native of Illinois.

David C. Davis is independent in his political faith, recognizing the dictates of no creed in his right of franchise. He has been a member of the school board for a period of ten years.

OLE P. NESS.

Ole P. Ness, who is well known as a farmer in Everts township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, but who, for many years, was engaged in railroad work, was born in Norway, April 10, 1859, and is a son of Halver and Ellen (Petersen) Ness, both of whom were natives of Norway, his father's birth occurring on July 7, 1828, and his mother's in 1830.

In 1883 Halver Ness and his family came to Minnesota, from their native land, and here took up one hundred and sixty acres of land in Marshall county, which their son, Ole P., now owns. The family remained in Marshall county about eighteen years, and Halver Ness now lives with his son, his wife having died in 1905. Halver Ness and his wife were the parents of five children, of whom John and Hilda are deceased. The living children are Ole P., Torvald and August.

Educated in the public schools of his native land, Ole P. Ness came to America in 1880, settling in Everts township. In 1882 he purchased one hundred and twenty acres of land, later adding forty acres in one tract, and twenty-nine acres in another, and he is now the owner of one hundred and eighty-nine acres in Everts township, besides one hundred and sixty acres in Marshall county, Minnesota. Mr. Ness is a general farmer and stockman, and has met with a very commendable degree of success in his chosen calling.

In 1883 Ole P. Ness began working in the round-house at Fergus Falls, Minnesota. The next year he became a fireman on the railroad, and five years later was promoted to the post of engineer, holding this position for several years on the Great Northern railroad. For a time he was located at Barnesville, Minnesota, as inspector of engines. Later he settled in Marshall county, Minnesota, and engaged in farming. In 1907 he removed to his farm in Everts township.

Ole P. Ness was married in 1893 to Bertha Ellstad, who was born in Decorah, Iowa, and who is a daughter of Tollef and Margaret Ellstad, early settlers in Iowa, who came from Norway. Both are now deceased. By this first marriage of Mr. Ness there were four children born, of whom Elmer, the youngest born, is deceased. The living children are Hilda, Lillian and John. The mother of these children died in 1902, and some years later Mr. Ness married Clara Aune, who was born in Minneapolis, Minnesota, August 10, 1880. She is a daughter of Ole and Margaret (Wigen) Aune, the former of whom was born in Norway in 1853, and the latter in 1863 in the same country. Ole Aune came to Minneapolis in 1882, and Margaret Wigen came to this country in the same year. They were married in Minneapolis in 1885, and are now living in Marshall county, Minnesota. Mrs. Ness's mother was a daughter of Berndt Wigen and wife, natives of

Norway. They were married in Norway on October, 1858, and in 1883, came to Minneapolis, where they lived until 1889, in which year they removed to West Valley, Minnesota, homesteading one hundred and sixty acres of land. His wife died here on January 29, 1915. Berndt Wigen and his wife were the parents of eight children: John, a resident of St. Paul; Alfred, who lives in Canada; Mrs. A. Mickelson, and Mrs. A. Nelsen, both of whom are living at Argyle, Minnesota; Mrs. Ole Aune, of West Valley; Mrs. Peter Myhr, of Minneapolis, and two who died early in life. They also have thirty-nine grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

Mr. and Mrs. Ole P. Ness are the parents of three children: Myrtle, born in 1906; Helmer, born in 1909, and Orville, whose birth occurred in 1912.

Mr. Ness has cleared practically all of his land himself, and has made many substantial improvements on his place, including the erection of fine farm buildings.

Mr. Ness and his family are earnest and devout members of the Lutheran church.

OLAF A. VINJE.

Olaf A. Vinje, the eldest son of Olaf and Mathea (Brenna) Vinje was born in Norway, March 5, 1867. His father, Olaf Vinje, was a brother of the distinguished Norwegian poet, Osmund Vinje. He was born in Telemarken, Norway, October 5, 1832. Mathea (Brenna) Vinje was born in Eidskogen, Norway, January 3, 1844. They came to America in 1882 and located on a farm in St. Olaf township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota. Here Mr. Vinje's parents spent the rest of their lives. When they first came to this farm it was a barren tract of land, but is now highly productive and is well improved. When Olaf Vinje first came to this country he operated a store and was later appointed as postmaster. He retired from the mercantile business, and resigned as postmaster and devoted his time to farming. Mrs. Olaf Vinje died on December 13, 1909. Olaf Vinje died on August 19, 1911.

There were twelve children in the Vinje family, all of whom are living, except one girl who died in Norway. Olaf A., the eldest, is the immediate subject of this sketch; Martha, married to N. O. Melby, resides at Fergus Falls, Minnesota; Syver is a physician and surgeon at Hillsboro, North Dakota; Ragnhild married Anton Thompson, county attorney of Otter Tail county; Osmund, Eivin and Svein are practicing dentistry in Chicago, Illinois; Arne is an attorney at Steele, North Dakota; Signe married Olaf Schei, clothier at Fergus Falls, Minnesota; Dagny married John F. Thomp-

son, president of the Northern Oil company, and Helga, who married J. E. Styne.

Olaf A. Vinje received his education in the common schools of his native land, and was fifteen years of age when he came to America with his parents. By home study he has taught himself to read and write the English language. In 1912 Mr. Vinje first engaged in farming and now operates the home place. He has been very successful in his chosen vocation, and has applied himself assiduously to its successful operation.

REV. A. J. SCHAUT.

Among the many crusaders for spiritual freedom, none are more influential than those who are church leaders. A. J. Schaut is in this class and as pastor of an appreciative parish, he is sincerely respected by all who know him. A. J. Schaut is a native of Syracuse, New York, and his birth occurred on June 13, 1869. He is the son of W. F. Schaut and his wife, Mary A. Schaut, both natives of Syracuse, New York. W. F. Schaut was a civil engineer and followed that vocation for many years.

A. J. Schaut is indebted to the schools of Pennsylvania for his early education, having been a student in St. Mary's and later taking a course of study in the normal, in Florence, Alabama, from which school he graduated in 1883. He then entered Notre Dame University, at South Bend, Indiana, and graduated from that institution of learning in 1894. He was ordained at Notre Dame University, and soon after removed to St. Cloud, Minnesota, where he served in the capacity of assistant pastor of the cathedral in that place. In 1895 he removed to St. Joseph, Minnesota, where he remained until 1904, at which time he began his duties in the parish of Perham, Minnesota, and is still engaged as a pastor, much beloved by the congregation.

THOMAS K. JOHNSON.

Thomas K. Johnson was born on November 6, 1845, in Guernsey county, Ohio, and is the son of Barney and Maria (Fitch) Johnson, natives of Pennsylvania and Guernsey county, Ohio, respectively. Barney Johnson left his native state of Pennsylvania when a young man and located in Guernsey county, where he met and won Maria Fitch as his wife. By trade he was a carpenter and followed that vocation in Ohio until 1852, at which time he removed to Missouri and settled in St. Clair county, for seven years. He then transferred his location to the state of Iowa and resided in Wapello county for eighteen months, removing thence to Mower county, Minnesota, where he remained until his death in 1863. His demise resulted from con-

sumption. Maria (Fitch) Johnson, after the death of her husband, married Julius Stone and lived to the age of more than seventy years, dying in November, 1894.

Both Barney Johnson and his wife, Maria (Fitch) Johnson, were active, loyal members of the Baptist church and were the parents of twelve children: William, who was a veteran of the Civil War and died in the state of Missouri; Robert was a farmer and lived in Colorado where his death occurred; Thomas K. is the subject of this sketch; Sarah Catherine, who is the widow of George Benton and now resides in Austin, Minnesota; John was a farmer and lived in Otter Tail county, Minnesota, where his death occurred; Barnabas was an employee of a railroad company and he passed away while a resident of Montana; Nancy became the wife of Caleb Powers and now makes her home in Austin, Minnesota; Theodosia became the wife of Homer Hubbard and they reside in Breckenridge, Minnesota; Virginia became the wife of Joseph Shannon and after her marriage removed to Los Angeles, California, where she still lives; three other children there were, but they died in infancy.

Reared on his father's farm in Minnesota, Thomas K. Johnson received his education in the public schools of his locality. On November 1, 1863, he enlisted in Company B, Second Minnesota Cavalry, and remained in service for the period of two years and one month, during the Civil War. He was in the western division of the army which was sent out to fight the Indians. He was engaged in agricultural pursuits until 1878, and at that time removed to Otter Tail county and settled in Amor township, where he cultivated one hundred and fifty-seven acres of homestead land. This land was in section 4 and was a veritable wilderness, but with the courage and perseverance of the pioneer, he built a log house with a thatched roof and began clearing the land, preparatory to cultivation, improving it in every way possible and remained there until 1904, at which time he removed to the town of Richville, which was being built. Here he entered the commercial life of this thriving town by engaging in the saw-mill industry and, at the same time, assisted his wife in the general merchandise store which she owned and operated. Since their removal to Richville, the farm has been sold and thirty acres of town property has been purchased. They have a nice, comfortable home and are fully prepared to enjoy the future years of plenty and peace.

Thomas K. Johnson was united in marriage to Nellie French on December 23, 1869. She is the daughter of Monroe and Sarah (Landon) French and was born on August 22, 1845, in Sugar Island, Wisconsin, a town that is situated not far from Milwaukee. Sarah (Landon) French was a native

of Canada, but some years after her birth removed to Wisconsin, where she later met and married Monroe French. Monroe French was a native of Stratford, New Hampshire. They married in Wisconsin but removed to Austin, Minnesota, where they both died.

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas K. Johnson are the parents of ten children, three of whom are now living: Herman is a farmer in Saskatchewan, Canada; Stephen is a stationary engineer and lives in Mason City, Iowa; Alberta married Frederick Atwood, but is now the wife of Allen McWhirter and they live in Virginia, Minnesota; Elsie became the wife of Thomas Mills, but passed away at the age of twenty-six years.

Thomas K. Johnson was one of seven men who organized the Richville Telephone Company. He also served as school treasurer for the period of eighteen years, in district 170, in Amor township. He also served as supervisor for the same length of time. Fraternally, he is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. He is also an honored member of the Grand Army of the Republic, of Fergus Falls, Minnesota. With the exception of two years he has been chairman of the Richville council since its organization.

ANDERS H. HOLM.

The late Anders H. Holm, who was one of the well-known citizens of Sverdrup township and one of its most enterprising farmers until his death on April 22, 1913, was a native of Norway, where he was born on November 12, 1860.

Mr. Holm was the son of Halvor and Sigred (Andersen) Thoresen, both of whom were natives of Norway and who came to Otter Tail county, Minnesota, in 1887. After coming to this country they lived with their son, Anders H., until their deaths. Mr. Holm's father died on June 12, 1911, at the age of eighty-six years and his mother died in 1898, at the age of seventy-one.

The late Anders H. Holm was reared on a farm and educated in the public schools of Norway. Upon coming to America in 1884 he came to Otter Tail county and purchased seventy-five acres of land where the Holm family now lives. This land is located in Sverdrup township. Here Anders Holm lived for twenty years. Later, however, he purchased one hundred and fifty-one acres of land in the same township, farming both tracts of land until his death. After his death, his widow sold the second farm and moved to the first farm of seventy-five acres, where she built a splendid residence and a good barn and where she now lives. Anders Holm was a stockholder in the cheese factory at Phelps, Minnesota, and a stockholder in the co-operative mercantile store at Underwood.

In 1886 Anders Holm was married to Hanna Carlsen, who was born in Sweden on March 11, 1862, the daughter of Carl and Christine (Pederson) Carlsen, both of whom were also natives of Sweden. Mrs. Holm's father was born on April 30, 1825, and her mother on May 1, 1829. Her father died in Sweden at the age of forty-nine and the mother at the age of fifty-three. Mrs. Holm was the third child in a family of six children, the others being, John, Alfred, Peter, France and Amanda. Mr. Holm and wife were the parents of twelve children, of whom eight are deceased, Sena, Anna, Sena, Harold, Carl, Andrew, Amanda and Arnold. The living children are Anna, Alma, Elvin and Clara.

Mr. Holm was more or less prominent in the political life of his township and throughout his life was an ardent Republican. The Holm family has been conspicuously identified with the Lutheran church. Mr. Holm was a member of this church as is also his widow at the present time.

JOHN T. THOMPSON.

Born on October 25, 1872, in St. Olaf township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, John T. Thompson, who is a farmer and business man of Dalton, Minnesota, is the son of Isaak and Ingeborganna Thompson, both of whom were natives of Norway. Mr. Thompson's father was born in Stod, Norway, January 18, 1822, and was a laborer in his native land. In 1857 he came to America and made his home in Iowa, for ten years. Mr. Thompson's mother was born in Stod, Norway, October 18, 1833. She came to America in 1865 and they were married at Decorah, Iowa, in 1866. In 1867 they moved to St. Olaf township where the father homesteaded one hundred and seventy acres of land where he lived the remainder of his active life on the farm. They spent their last years at Dalton, Minnesota.

Mr. and Mrs. Isaak Thompson were the parents of three children. One boy who died an infant. Annie was born on November 18, 1868. On November 18, 1891, she was married to Fred Anderson. They are farming at Aurora, Oregon. The third child was John T., the subject of this sketch. They were members of the Lutheran church. Isaak Thompson died on February 17, 1915, and Mrs. Thompson died on January 17, 1914.

John T. Thompson was educated in the common schools of St. Olaf township, Otter Tail county and, when a young man, began life on his father's farm on his own responsibility. When he was twenty-one years old he was presented with the home farm by his father and has owned it ever since. In 1909 he engaged in the clothing business at Dalton, Minnesota. He retired from the clothing business in 1915. He is now interested in the Northern Oil Company. Mr. Thompson is a stockholder and director

of the First State Bank of Dalton and is otherwise prominent in commercial circles in this section of Otter Tail county.

On May 25, 1913, John T. Thompson was married to Dagny Vinje, and to them has been born one child, Margaret Irene.

Mr. and Mrs. Thompson are members of the Norwegian Lutheran church. Mr. Thompson is independent in politics. He is an intelligent and prosperous business man and is popular, not only in his home community, but throughout this and adjoining counties, where he is so well known.

EDWARD C. EMBERTSON.

Edward C. Embertson is one of the progressive farmers of Parkers Prairie township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, and his superior intelligence, along the chosen line of his endeavor, has made him an authority on many questions pertaining to agriculture. He is one of the seven children born to the union of Edward Embertson and Clara Knutson, both natives of Norway, and his birth occurred on November 10, 1869, in Vernon county, Wisconsin. Edward Embertson was born on April 11, 1847, in Norway, and immigrated to America when a small child. His education was received in the common schools of Vernon county, Wisconsin, following which he was employed as a river driver, and in summer he was engaged in the pine forests in preparation for the winter work. Clara Knutson was born on August 26, 1847, and immigrated to America with her parents, who located in Vernon county, Wisconsin. It was in that state that her marriage to Edward Embertson was solemnized.

Shortly after their marriage Edward Embertson and his wife removed to Otter Tail county, Minnesota, locating in Parkers Prairie township, on one hundred and sixty acres of land which they purchased under the homestead law. Their abode on this farm was begun in 1870, and for many years their struggle to successfully cultivate and market their products was a mighty one indeed, there being no roads and the location of their farm being far removed from their market place. In spite of the many difficulties, however, they managed very successfully, and many improvements on the farm were made. The names of their seven children are as follow: Edward C., John, Matilda, Julia, Ellen, Emma and Laura. John is an attorney-at-law, at Parkers Prairie, Minnesota; Matilda is a teacher in the schools of Fergus Falls, Minnesota; Julia is a nurse at Sauk Center, Minnesota; Ellen is the wife of P. M. Johnson, and lives in Orleans, Minnesota; Emma is a teacher in the schools of Two Harbors, Minnesota, while Laura lives with her mother at Henning, Minnesota.

The grandparents of Edward C. Embertson were Engbret and Ingeborg

Sherve, both natives of Norway, who immigrated to America in 1858 and located in Vernon county, Wisconsin. Ingbret Sherve engaged in agricultural pursuits and followed that vocation until his death. His son, Edward Embertson, died on June 6, 1903. Edward Embertson was one of the organizers of the Norwegian Lutheran church in Parkers Prairie township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, in which church he was an active member and served in various offices. His early political faith was in favor of the Republican party, but later he became an advocate of independent principles and continued to cast his vote in favor of the people.

Edward C. Embertson is indebted to the common schools of Parkers Prairie township for his early education, his studies being completed in the commercial college of Willmar, Minnesota. Soon after his student days, he engaged in school teaching, and followed this vocation for a period of three years, after which he accepted a position in the auditor's office in Fergus Falls, Minnesota, serving in this capacity for a period of six years. In 1898, he purchased the present farm, consisting of one hundred and sixty acres, which he devotes to general diversified farming.

On January 17, 1893, Edward C. Embertson was united in marriage to Hanna Olson, and to them have been born eight children, whose names follow: Clarence, Elma, Hulda, Laurence, Harris, Edna, Amy and Harlan. Hanna (Olson) Embertson was born on October 26, 1870, in Norway, and has been a devoted helpmeet and mother. She and her husband attend the Norwegian Lutheran church, and, while not members of the congregation, are active in its support. Edward C. Embertson casts his vote as an independent, and his influence always in favor of the best man.

WILLARD HAZEN.

Willard Hazen, farmer, Parkers Prairie, Otter Tail county, was born on August 24, 1863, in Monroe county, Wisconsin, and is a son of J. S. and Virginia (Miller) Hazen. He received his education at the public schools of Parkers Prairie township, and as a young boy started to work out in the timber. For fourteen springs and winters, he worked in the woods and on the rivers of Wisconsin and Minnesota, and during the summers worked in the harvest fields of the Dakotas, after which he was for three years on the police force at Bemidji. When Parkers Prairie was first established he conducted a saloon for three years, and later became proprietor of a hotel for seven years. In 1913 he came to the farm on which he now lives, which he had bought the year before, consisting of eighty acres, on which he does general farming. Politically, Mr. Hazen has always given his support to the Republican party.

J. S. Hazen, father of the subject of this sketch, was born in the state of New York, and his wife, Virginia (Miller) Hazen, was born in Virginia. Mr. Hazen followed farming in Wisconsin, and went to the Civil War in the Thirty-seventh regiment, Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, enlisting in 1863 and remaining out three years, participating in all the engagements of his regiment. In 1868, he came to Otter Tail county and homesteaded the place where Willard Hazen now resides, consisting of one hundred and sixty acres, but died before he received the homestead papers. Mrs. Hazen completed the arrangements for the homestead, and the family finally became the owners of two hundred and seventeen acres. Mrs. Hazen died in 1894. This union was blest with ten children: Charles, A. B., Ella, Edmund and Edgar (twins), William, Willard, Bell, Hattie and Fred.

Willard Hazen was united in marriage in October, 1886, with Mary Schroeder, by whom he has had nine children: A. I., Kattie, Betsey, Ora. Ray, Laura, Lillian, Herbert and Kenneth.

WILLIAM J. HOFFMANN.

A citizen who has given evidence of his interest in the development of the community in which he lives and who has used every effort to promote its civic welfare, is William J. Hoffman, who as postmaster at Dent, has found opportunity to familiarize himself with many lines of business enterprise. William J. Hoffmann is a native of Germany, having been born in that country on the 22nd of April, 1872. He is the son of Gottlieb and Henrietta (Klug) Hoffmann, both of whom were born in Germany. Gottlieb Hoffmann lived in Germany all his life, but his wife and the seven children whom they reared left their native land to come to America.

William Hoffmann received the elementary branches of education in the public schools of Germany, and was still a boy when his mother and her seven children came to Otter Tail county, Minnesota, in 1882. The family located in Dora township, where Mrs. Hoffmann, a woman of great strength of character, took a homestead claim on forty-seven acres of land. For a short while after their arrival, William J. Hoffmann attended the Dora township schools. He later availed himself of the educational advantages given at Perham, where he attended school for one term. His advancement in school affairs was remarkably rapid, and at the end of the term he was able to qualify for the profession of teaching in the public schools. He taught school, and after the first term turned his attention to the occupation of farming, which he followed for three years. At the end of that time he was able to buy the original Hoffmann homestead, owned by his mother. Aside from the duties of the farm management, he

took charge of the postoffice at Dora, with which he was connected until 1903, when he moved to Dent. He has the distinction, with his business partner, of erecting the first mercantile business building in Dent. He remained in this location for two years when he returned to the farm. During the two years which followed, Mr. Hoffmann experienced the disappointment of losing part of his financial gains of several years. He decided to return to Dent, where since 1907 he has been engaged in various lines of business enterprise, among which is the field of real estate,

In December, 1914, Mr. Hoffmann became postmaster at Dent. In political affairs he has always shown enthusiasm as a member of the Democratic party. He was one of the leaders who were active in incorporating the town of Dent.

On the 27th of February, 1900, the marriage of William C. Hoffmann to Anna Stender was solemnized. Mr. and Mrs. Hoffmann have reared the following children: Herman, Elsa, who was the first child born in Dent; William, Bennie, Frieda, Irwin and George.

WILLIAM H. KENDALL.

William H. Kendall, farmer, Parkers Prairie, Otter Tail county, was born on May 10, 1863, in Iowa, and is the son of Charles and Mary (Reed) Kendall. His education was obtained at the public schools of Minnesota, after which he assisted his father on the farm, and still later took entire care of his parents for the remainder of their lives, at whose death he became the owner of the home place, about 1895, and now owns one hundred and seventy acres of fine agricultural land, on which he has put the most of the improvements. Mr. Kendall follows general farming, and on one part of his place he has a splendid fishing lake and a summer resort, including a cottage and boats, which he rents out. Politically, he is a Republican, and in religion his sympathies are with the Baptist church. Fraternally, he belongs to the Ancient Order of United Workmen.

Charles Kendall was born on April 18, 1825, in New Hampshire, and his wife, Mary (Reed) Kendall, was born on October 18, 1827, in Kentucky. Mr. Kendall followed farming for a vocation, and came west about 1853, settling in Illinois for a short period, and then moved to the southern part of Minnesota, from where he moved in a few years to Iowa. In 1881 he came to Otter Tail County and settled in Parkers Prairie, on the farm now owned by his son, consisting of one hundred and sixty acres, where he spent the remainder of his life in the vocation of agriculture. To Charles and Mary (Reed) Kendall were born two children, William H., and John F. Mr. Kendall was an ardent Republican but never sought public office.

William H. Kendall was united in marriage on October 18, 1885, with Christena Bennett, daughter of A. J. Bennett. She was born on October 10, 1866. This union has been blest with one child, Nora, who was born on May 17, 1888, and is now the wife of Henry Fritz. They have one child, Betsey L., born on March 7, 1912.

Andrew Jackson Bennett, father of Mrs. William Kendall, was born on September 7, 1844, and was united in marriage with Rachel Emberson, who was born on August 9, 1846, in Norway. They came to Otter Tail county, Minnesota, June 10, 1875, and located in Parkers Prairie township, where they took up a homestead of forty acres, and had a hard struggle to get along at first but by industry he finally became prosperous, and later bought eighty acres more from the railroad, giving him a fine tract of one hundred and twenty acres, where he did general farming. Mrs. Rachel Bennett died on September 26, 1893. Mr. Bennett put all the improvements on his place, which he sold in 1905, moving to Canada, where he still resides. Mr. and Mrs. Bennett had nine children: Daniel R., Christena, Andrew E., who died at the age of two and one half years; Willie, who died aged twenty years; Elmina and Elmira, twins, the latter of whom died when twenty-six years of age; Della, who died at the age of twenty-seven years; Alma, and Chester, who lives in Canada. Mr. Bennett is a stanch Democrat, while in religion he is an ardent Baptist, in the work of which he has been active, holding the office of deacon.

Mr. Kendall is a man of sterling qualities, and is highly esteemed in this neighborhood.

KASPER LAUSTEN.

Born in Denmark, March 9, 1843, Kasper Lausten, of Newton township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, herded cattle when he was a small boy and attended school in the winter. His parents were poor and he has made his own way in the world and is today rated as a self-made man.

Mr. Lausten's parents died in Denmark. He was educated in that country and, in 1878, settled at Norwood, Carver county, Minnesota, and six years later moved to Otter Tail county, where he took a homestead of forty acres in one tract and forty acres in another. He now owns eighty acres where he lives, besides forty acres in section 19. While a resident of Norwood, Mr. Lausten worked on the railroad as a section hand. He has cleared his land and has erected good buildings upon the farm.

In 1873 Kasper Lausten was married to Johanna Christina Nelson, who was born in Denmark. Mrs. Lausten's parents died in their native land. To Mr. and Mrs. Lausten have been born seven children, four of

whom, Mary, Lewis, Anne and Louis, were born in Denmark. Lewis is deceased. Three children, Nicolena, Sophia and Lena, were born in this country. Nicolena was born in Carver county at Norwood, and is deceased. Sophia is the wife of William Rieman. Lena is the wife of Jerome Compeau, of Cass Lake, Minnesota. Mrs. Lausten died on the old homestead farm on April 4, 1912. She was a good mother and a good wife and her loss was keenly felt, not only by her immediate relatives, but by a host of friends and neighbors. She was a devout member of the Lutheran church and her husband and children, who survive, are also members of that church.

NICOLAI HAAGENSON.

Nicolai HaagenSON, farmer, stock raiser, prominent citizen and man of affairs in Oscar township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, was born on the HaagenSON farm in Oscar township, November 6, 1886, the son of Nils and Marie (Johnson) HaagenSON, natives of Norway. Nils HaagenSON is the son of Haagen Hermanson, who came to America and located in Nicollet county, Minnesota, where he farmed for a short time and then retired from active life and lived with his son, Ole Hermanson, for the remainder of his days.

Nils HaagenSON was educated in the schools of his native land, and for a time after coming to America, when he was thirteen years of age, he attended classes in the public schools of Nicollet county, Minnesota, where he settled, with his parents, and with whom he lived until 1875, when he came to Otter Tail county, and homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of land in section 35, Oscar township. On this farm Nils HaagenSON lived as a general farmer until 1910, when he moved to Fergus Falls, and now lives a retired life at that place. As a business man, Nils HaagenSON is prominently connected, being a stockholder in the Fergus Falls National Bank; in the Scandia Bank, of the same city; he is interested in several financial institutions of North Dakota, and is heavily interested in the new Carlisle Bank, of Carlisle, Minnesota. He is an extensive landowner, owning large tracts of land in Minnesota and in North Dakota.

Nils HaagenSON is a prominent member of the Norwegian Lutheran church at Carlisle, Minnesota, and is known as one of the chief workers and supporters of this denomination in Otter Tail county. Nils and Marie HaagenSON are the parents of six children: Anna, Herman, John, Alfred, Emily and Nicolai.

Nicolai HaagenSON was educated in the common schools of Oscar township, Otter Tail county, at Northwestern College, of Fergus Falls, and at the Darling Business College, at Fergus Falls, following which he became

a student of agriculture at the Minnesota State University, and then he took charge of the home farm of two hundred and twenty-five acres in Oscar township, a place which Mr. Haagenson now cultivates as a general farmer, together with the raising of Shorthorn cattle and Chester White hogs. In addition to his present farm, Nicolai Haagenson is the owner of two hundred and forty acres of land elsewhere in Otter Tail county.

On June 23, 1910, Nicolai Haagenson was married to Inga Fjestad, of Carlisle, the daughter of Frank Fjestad and wife, well-known people of the community.

Frank Fjestad was born in Norway, November 12, 1847, and in 1867 came to America, locating first in the state of Wisconsin, where he lived for a short time and then moved to Texas, making his home in that state for one year, after which he returned to Wisconsin, and then later moved to Carlisle township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, where he now lives as a prosperous farmer and landowner, being the owner of nine hundred and ninety acres of land, all well improved.

Nicolai Haagenson is a stockholder of the Carlisle Elevator Company, of the Carlisle Bank, and is heavily interested in the Cream of Barley Company, of Minneapolis. Mr. Haagenson is a leading member of the Norwegian Lutheran church at Carlisle.

FRANK H. HORNE.

One of the first hotels in Almora is the establishment built and managed by Frank H. Horne, who, because of his genial nature and thorough understanding of the business, has made it a popular home for travelers in the north. Coming here when the town consisted of a small group of houses, he saw the need for hotel accommodations and with true business instinct and with pioneer hardihood, set to work to supply the need. Since that time his business has grown and he has added livery service to his first enterprise.

Frank H. Horne was born on December 3, 1859, in Berks county, Pennsylvania, and is the son of Elias A. and Mary (Minnick) Horne. The parents were of German descent, but were born in Berks county, where they grew up and were married. The father followed his trade as shoemaker until 1860, when, removing to Blackhawk county, Iowa, he became a farmer and there he and his wife spent the remainder of their lives in quiet pursuits, she passing away in 1912 and his death following a year later. Both were members of the Reformed church. Sarah, their eldest daughter, became the wife of John P. Berry, of Waterloo, Iowa; Frank H. is their second child; Annie is now Mrs. George Davis, also of Waterloo, Iowa.

The public schools of Blackhawk county, Iowa, furnished Frank H. Horne his education and in his early manhood he became a farmer on rented land in Floyd county, Iowa. In 1902 he moved to Otter Tail county, living near the village of Clitherall on a farm for one year. He then located in Elmo township, when Almora was only a settlement. A number of buildings were then being erected, and in order to provide lodging for the workmen engaged on them Mr. Horne established a boarding house in a tent. He immediately began the erection of a hotel containing twelve rooms, the dimensions of the building being thirty by forty feet. He has been its proprietor ever since and by the pursuance of good business methods has built up an enviable trade. To this business was added, in 1915, a livery service, when he built a substantial new livery barn. Another line of activity in which Mr. Horne was engaged was a phase of railroad work when for four years he was local agent of the Soo Line and manager of the grain elevator. These enterprises he has given up. His farm of one hundred and thirty-one acres near the village is rented and operated by his son, Earl, who is the eldest son born to Mr. and Mrs. Horne, who were married on September 7, 1880, she having been Ida L. Crane, the daughter of Thomas Crane, of Minnesota. A daughter was born previous to the birth of Earl, her name being Alice. She is the wife of Irvin Hering, a resident of Charles City, Iowa. The other children in the order of their birth are: Bert, a mail clerk; of Dixon, Illinois; Iva and Ruth. Mr. and Mrs. Horne are members of the church of Latter-Day Saints.

As a hotel man and as one of the first settlers in this locality, Mr. Horne is among the best-known citizens of Almora. He and his wife are hospitable and it has been their effort to diffuse about their hotel the atmosphere best described as "home-like." Theirs has been an influence for good during the many years of their residence here.

GERMAN SHA

German Sha was born in Wurtemberg, Germany, December 3, 1838, the son of Sebastian and Elizabeth (Lark) Sha, both of whom were natives of Germany, in which country they lived their entire lives, Sebastian Sha being a farmer of twenty-five acres, as well as a cattle buyer of his locality. The elder Sha served for some years as a soldier of the German army, having made a good record during the period of his service. Sebastian Sha was a member of the Catholic church. To Sebastian and Elizabeth Sha were born five children: Pauline, who is deceased; Elizabeth, who married Martin Muckenteiler and in the year 1855 came to America, locating in the state of Kansas, where she died; German, the subject of this sketch; Sebas-

tian, who is a baker and cattle buyer of Germany, and Frank, who died in New York City.

German Sha, following his education in the common schools of Germany, learned the miller's trade, which he followed for three years and then came to America, in the year 1857, making the voyage of thirty-five days on a sailing vessel. After arriving in New York City he went to Scott county, Minnesota, where he worked on farms, generally, until the year 1860, when he came to Otter Tail county, Minnesota, homesteading one hundred and sixty acres of land in Erhards Grove township, and buying about one hundred acres of additional land from the Northern Pacific Railway Company. This place he cleared of the timber and broke up the sod of the prairie land, building a log cabin for a home and afterward during his active life made this farm his home, in the meantime adding many improvements until now his farm is one of the best in the community. In the year 1915, German Sha retired from the farm and moved to the town of Elizabeth, Minnesota, where he has erected a good home.

During the year 1862, German Sha was married to Elizabeth Colosky, who was born in Canada, the daughter of Anthony Colosky and wife, natives of Germany. To the marriage of German and Elizabeth Sha have been born the following children: Joseph, a farmer of Orwell township, Otter Tail county; Peter, a farmer who died in Aurdal township; Frank a farmer, butcher and cattle buyer of Trondhjem township; Alexander, a farmer living near Erhard, Otter Tail county; Edward, who lives on the Sha homestead; Maggie, who married M. F. Kniprath and lives in the state of North Dakota; Elizabeth, who married R. A. Burau and lives at Fairview, Montana; Carrie, who married Henry C. Burau, and lives at Fairview, Montana; Mary, who married Elmer J. Parson and lives at Brook Park, Minnesota; Clara, who married Joe Morris, and lives near Staples, Minnesota; and Kate, who married Charles Spies and lives in Oscar township, this county. German Sha and his family are faithful and devout members of the Catholic church at Elizabeth, Minnesota.

From April 1, 1862, Mr. Sha was employed by the government at Yellow Medicine, a Sioux Indian agency. On the 18th of August, 1862, there broke out an Indian uprising. With the assistance of a friendly Indian (John Other Day), Mr. Sha, wife and a party of thirty-five people, were able to escape, traveling across country for five days.

In the political and official life of Erhards Grove township German Sha has served his community in various offices, his conduct and regulation of his offices and related affairs always being above criticism. One of the best evidences of the standing of German Sha in his locality is his election for more than thirty-five years to the important office of school director, as well

as his election as chairman of the board of supervisors for ten years, and also as assessor for one year.

Although German Sha has now retired from active life he maintains his usual interest in the affairs of the township and is known as a citizen ready at all times to do or to serve his community in any way. In political affiliation Mr. Sha is of the Republican party.

HARRY BAKER.

Aside from being the owner of a considerable tract of land situated in Alberta, Canada, as well as the proprietor of a farm in Candor township, comprising one hundred and forty-two acres, considerable interest attaches itself to the man whose name heads this biographical sketch in that he is reputed to be the first child born in Lida township.

Harry Baker was born in Lida township, Otter Tail county, on April 15, 1876, the son of Harrison and Lena (Ulven) Baker, the former of whom was born in Clay county, Kentucky, in 1848, and the latter in Norway in 1842. Harrison Baker served valiantly throughout the entire Civil War, having enlisted as a mere lad of thirteen years. After the close of the great struggle, he moved to Ft. Abercrombie, North Dakota, where he was married. Subsequently, in 1874, he removed from North Dakota and settled in Otter Tail county, living at Pelican for a period of one year and then moving to Lida township, where he homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of virgin land. He spent his entire life on this homestead, passing away in 1891 at the age of forty-three years. His beloved wife survives him and is now residing at Vergas. To Mr. and Mrs. Baker there were born six children, namely: Robert, Julia, Harry, John, Minnie and George, all of whom are still living.

Reared on his father's homestead and receiving his elementary education in the public schools of his community, Harry Baker, when a lad of but seventeen years of age, removed to North Dakota, where five years later he homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of land. After spending seven years on this homestead, he then immigrated to Alberta, Canada, purchased six hundred and forty-five acres of land and occupied this land for ten years. In 1912, however, still retaining his Canadian land, he returned to the county of his birth and bought one hundred and forty-two acres in section 34, of Candor township. Since that time he has devoted his attention and efforts to general farming and stock raising.

In 1912 Harry Baker was united in marriage to Emma Hoffman, a native of Otter Tail county, born in Dora township in 1890, and the daughter of Charles and Bertha (Kratzke) Hoffman. Her parents settled in Otter

Tail county in 1882 and are still living in section 5, of Dora township. To Mr. and Mrs. Harry Baker there has been born one child, Minnie Bertha, born on December 19, 1914.

Mr. Baker is at present serving in the capacity of treasurer of the school board of his township and is serving this position creditably to himself and to the entire satisfaction of the people of the township.

WILLARD P. BURTON.

Though not a native-born citizen of Minnesota, Willard P. Burton has the claim of being one of the pioneer settlers of the great Northwest. He endured with many others the hardships incidental to pioneer life and, using his own words, "can well remember the grasshopper days of this section of the country." By his hard and patient labor he has accumulated a gratifying competence and now enjoys the distinction of being one of the most successful farmers as well as the possessor of some of the finest farm buildings in Otter Tail county. During the summer of 1915, he, with his wife, enjoyed a season of travel and sightseeing, and attended the Panama Exposition as well as making side trips of charm and interest.

Willard P. Burton was born in Columbia county, Pennsylvania, on January 28, 1853, the son of Cyrus and Louisa (Platt) Burton, the former a native of England and the latter of New York state. Mr. Burton spent nearly his entire life in Columbia county, Pennsylvania, passing away there in 1852. After her husband's death, Mrs. Burton, with her family, moved to Wisconsin, later to Iowa, and in 1874 came to Otter Tail county, living here until 1901, when she moved to Bemidji, Minnesota, where she died in 1906. To Mr. and Mrs. Cyrus Burton were born six children, namely: Ira, who lives at Emmett, Idaho; Lovisa, who resides at Fort Dodge, Iowa; Lovina, who resides in Scambler township; Loretta, deceased; Zolmon, a resident of Spokane, Washington, and Willard P., the subject of this sketch. By a former marriage to Ira Willard, Mrs. Cyrus Burton had given birth to one child, Sabria.

Willard P. Burton was reared in the states of Pennsylvania, Wisconsin and Iowa and received his education in the public schools of those states. In 1873 he came to Scambler township, this county, and homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of land situated in section 10. He immediately began the process of improving his farm and also of adding additional land to his original claim. Continuing this policy of gradual increase, Mr. Burton now owns one thousand and forty acres of land, all of which is contiguous except one farm lying two miles south. He also has lands in North Dakota. All his holdings on his farm are strictly modern, one barn being sixty feet wide and one hundred feet long.

In October, 1892, Willard P. Burton was united in marriage to Anna Monsen, a native of Sweden, born on May 16, 1867, daughter of Nels and Ella (Swansen) Monsen. Both Mr. and Mrs. Monsen were natives of Sweden and, after immigrating to the United States, settled in Litchfield, Meeker county, in 1870, and subsequently in Becker county, where they homesteaded land upon which they now reside. To Mr. and Mrs. Monsen have been born seven children, Anna, Ella, Mary, Oscar, Ernest, Hannah and Christina, all of whom are living. To Mr. and Mrs. Willard P. Burton there has been born one child, Albert Ira, who was born on October 18, 1893. For some time he has been a student at the Dakota Business College at Fargo, North Dakota.

Besides the operation of his farm, Willard P. Burton has taken an active part in the maintenance of the Farmers Creamery Company, Farmers Elevator Company and Pelican Telephone Company, of Pelican Rapids, and is a stockholder in each of these companies. He also has become an extensive shipper of stock, most of which is the product of his own farm. He has never aspired to political honors, being content to confine his best efforts to the management of his large farming interests.

CHARLES H. PERDUE.

Charles H. Perdue, former postmaster of the village of Dent, this county, and now a dealer in live stock at that place, was born at Minerva, Ohio, in 1870, son of R. J. and Elizabeth (Dumbleton) Perdue, both natives of Ohio, farming people and the parents of eight children, all of whom are living. R. J. Perdue died in 1894, and his widow is making her home with her son, Charles H., at Dent.

Following his graduation from the high school at Altoona, Iowa, in 1887, Charles H. Perdue took up farming, which he followed in Iowa until 1905, in which year he came to Minnesota, locating in Dead Lake township, this county, where he bought four hundred acres, on which place he lived for two or three years. In 1908 Mr. Perdue was appointed postmaster of Dent, at which time he moved to the village, where he since has made his home, being the owner of a fine dwelling house, which he built in 1910. His term as postmaster expired in January, 1915, since which time Mr. Dent has been quite successfully engaged in the live-stock business and is widely known throughout the county. Upon leaving his farm in Dead Lake township, he rented the same to responsible tenants and operates it as a stock farm, being extensively engaged in the breeding of Shorthorn cattle.

In 1896 Charles H. Perdue was united in marriage to Prussia Gifford, of Altoona, Iowa. Mr. and Mrs. Perdue are members of the Christian church at Dent and are active in all good works in that village and in the

community generally, they being held in the highest regard by all who know them. Mr. Perdue is a member of the Masonic lodge at Perham and of the Odd Fellows lodge at the same place and takes an active interest in the affairs of these two popular orders. He is a Republican and takes a good citizen's interest in the politics of the county and of the state. He is an energetic and enterprising citizen who is looked upon as one of the leaders of the community in which he lives and where he enjoys the confidence and esteem of all.

JACOB MERCER HURSH.

Born in Fairfield, Greene county, Ohio, July 7, 1851, Jacob Mercer Hursh, who is now living retired at Henning, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, has been for nearly forty years one of the foremost citizens and farmers of Otter Tail county.

Mr. Hursh's father, Frederick Hoak Hursh, was a native of Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, where he was born on January 29, 1833. His mother, who before her marriage was Ann Mercer, was born in Greene county, Ohio, December 8, 1830. The paternal grandparents of Mr. Hursh were Jacob and Sarah (Hoak) Hursh, the former of whom was born in 1808 and the latter in 1809. Sarah Hoak's father was Frederick Hoak, who was born on August 16, 1767. On January 5, 1832, Jacob Hursh and Sarah Hoak were married and, after their marriage, settled in Pennsylvania. Sarah (Hoak) Hursh died on December 1, 1850, in Ohio, and her husband at Long Lake, near Minneapolis, Minnesota, October 2, 1894.

Mrs. Ann (Mercer) Hursh, the mother of Jacob M. Hursh, was the daughter of Robert Mercer, a soldier in the War of 1812, who died in the state of Ohio.

Mr. Hursh's father, the late Frederick Hoak Hursh, who was a native of Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, immigrated to Clark county, Illinois, and later lived for a time in Cumberland county, Illinois. He was a resident of the latter county at the outbreak of the Civil War and enlisted in Company G, Fifty-fourth Regiment, Illinois Volunteer Infantry. At the close of the war he returned home and moved shortly thereafter, in 1866, to Long Lake, Minnesota. In 1877 he moved to Otter Tail county, Minnesota, and homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of land, which he received by virtue of his service in the Civil War. This claim was located in Inman township, three and one-half miles from what is now known as the town of Henning, but was then known as Peas Prairie. After a time, Mr. Hursh's father sold the claim and moved to California and later to Oregon and Idaho. He spent his last days in Henning, dying here on June 4, 1907. His widow also spent her last days at Henning and died at the home of her son, Jacob



JACOB M. HIRSH AND FAMILY.

M., September 25, 1914. Mr. Hursh's parents were married in 1850. The late Frederick H. Hursh served on the town board of Inman and was chairman of the board for some time. He was a member of the Lutheran church early in his life and his wife was a member of the Baptist church. At the time of their deaths, however, both were members of the Methodist Episcopal church.

To Frederick Hoak and Ann (Mercer) Hursh were born the following children, Jacob M., the subject of this sketch; Isaac and his twin brother died in infancy; Frederick, Jonathan Clark, Edward, Philip, Mertie Dell, Anna, Charles and Minnie.

Jacob M. Hursh, from the time he was four years old until the time he was fifteen, lived in the state of Illinois. When he was fifteen years old his parents moved to Hennepin county, Minnesota, and, in 1877, came to Otter Tail county and located in section 18, of Inman township, on eighty acres of land. Soon thereafter Mr. Hursh bought land, and increased his holdings to seven hundred and ten acres, all of which was located in Inman township, Otter Tail county. Of this seven hundred and ten acres, three hundred and ten were in sections 18 and 19, and the remainder in sections 7, 8 and 17. Until 1910 Mr. Hursh was actively engaged in farming. He retired in that year, but lived on the farm until November 1, 1914, when he moved to Henning and purchased the place where he now lives. He also bought another house and lot and ten acres, within the corporation limits of Henning, all of which is platted. Some of this has been sold recently. Not very long ago, Mr. Hursh sold one of his farms for twenty-four thousand dollars.

On April 9, 1873, Jacob M. Hursh was married to Lucy E. Braman, who was born in Hennepin county, near Minneapolis, February 23, 1856, the daughter of Cyrus and Sarah A. (Stinson) Braman. They were natives of Vermont and Maine, respectively, and pioneers in Hennepin county. Mrs. Hursh's father served in a Minnesota regiment during the Civil War. He died at Grand Junction, Colorado, and his wife at Albany, New York. They were the parents of seven children: Fred, Lucy, Dora, Effie, James, Kate and Ida.

Mr. and Mrs. Jacob M. Hursh have been the parents of fourteen children: Ethel May, born on June 18, 1875, married Ira Parks, of St. Paul; Marion, March 8, 1877, is now a physician at Grand Rapids, Minnesota; Frederick, April 2, 1879, is a farmer; Ida, July 20, 1880, is the wife of George Parks, of Inman township; Clarence, June 23, 1882, is a farmer on his grandfather's old homestead farm in Inman township; Laura, February 27, 1884, is the wife of Alvin Hontosh, of Bemidji, Minnesota; Perry, May

16, 1886, is a carpenter by trade and lives in St. Paul; Ada, June 25, 1888, is the wife of Archie Dibble, who lives on Mr. Hursh's farm in Inman township; Mertie, November 17, 1890, is the wife of Benjamin Hildegard, of Hutchinson, Kansas; Emma, October 2, 1892, lives at home; Kathlyn, February 21, 1895; Charlotte, October 26, 1897; Georgia, August 24, 1899, and Jacob Ira August 4, 1902, all live at home.

Mr. Hursh has been interested in the Farmers Elevator Company, of Henning, for a great many years. He was president of the corporation for some time. While a resident of Inman township Mr. Hursh was clerk of the school board for many years. He also served as supervisor and chairman of the board for about six years. Politically, Mr. Hursh was reared a Republican. Before the war, his father had been identified with the Democratic party, but became a Republican during the Civil War. Although Mr. Hursh was reared as a Republican, he left the party many years ago to become a Populist and is now independent in politics. The Hursh family attend the Methodist Episcopal church and two of Mr. Hursh's sons, Marion and Frederick, are ministers in the church, although not ordained. Mr. Hursh is very fond of children. He is highly esteemed in this community.

FRED HANSEN.

Fred Hansen, a prosperous farmer of Everts township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, where he owns one hundred and sixty acres of land, is a native of Fillmore county, Minnesota, where he was born on July 20, 1865.

Mr. Hansen moved to Grant county, Minnesota, when a mere child, and soon afterward accompanied his parents to Otter Tail county. He is a son of Andrew and Martha (Erickson) Hansen, both of whom were born in Norway, the former in 1834, and the latter on July 4, 1839. They were married in Norway and settled in Grant county, Minnesota, in pioneer times. They were also pioneers of Otter Tail county, Minnesota, and after removing to this county took a homestead in St. Olaf township in 1880. The next year they purchased three hundred and twenty acres of land in sections 8 and 9, of Everts township. Subsequently, however, Andrew Hansen sold the three hundred and twenty acres to his two sons, Fred and Lewis, so that each now has one hundred and sixty acres.

Andrew Hansen and his wife now reside on their old homestead in St. Olaf township, where they have a comfortable and well improved farm and home. Both he and his wife are earnest and faithful members of the Lutheran church. Of their eight children, Lewis and Anton are dead. The living children are J. E. H., Tilda, Fred, Anne, John and Carl.

Fred Hansen received his education in the public schools of Otter Tail county, and in 1893 he purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land from

his father, and most of the improvements on this farm Mr. Hansen has made with his own hands, since he has acquired the farm. He is a general farmer and stockman.

On August 2, 1891, Fred Hansen was married to Sophia Dahl, who is a native of Everts township, her birth having occurred here in 1873, and who is a daughter of Ole H. Dahl, whose biography is presented elsewhere in this work. Fred Hansen and wife are the parents of four children, Anton, Carl, May and Edna, all of whom are living at home with their father. The mother of these children died in 1902. The family are devout members of the Lutheran church, in which they take an active interest.

The Hansen family occupies a prominent place in the community life of their home neighborhood. Mr. Hansen is a highly respected citizen of the township.

RICHARD WANGERIN.

Richard Wangerin, a representative farmer of this county, by his industrious habits and many admirable qualities, has become as thoroughly identified with the community as though he were a native son. He was born in Cleveland, Ohio, in 1876, his parents being Frank and Minnie (Marquat) Wangerin, both natives of Germany.

It was in 1872 that Mr. and Mrs. Wangerin crossed the ocean and established their home in Cleveland, Ohio, where Mr. Wangerin engaged in carpenter work for four years. He then located on his farm of one hundred and sixty acres in section 10, Effington township, where Mr. Wangerin began the improvements which have since made his property an up-to-date farm. Later he purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land where his son now lives and where he and his wife both passed away. They were members of the Lutheran church, and Mr. Wangerin served the public as a member of the local school board. Their two children are Gustave J. and Richard.

Richard Wangerin, after attending school in this county, grew up and went to Hope, North Dakota, where he rented a farm for the two following years. Later he lived for three years in Canada on a farm which he purchased. At the time of his father's death he returned home and has remained here since. His present farm of three hundred and twenty acres is equipped with modern machinery, two large barns and a silo. He has specialized in the raising of purebred Shorthorn cattle.

In 1893, Richard Wangerin and Emma Gasche were married. Mrs. Wangerin is a native of Cleveland and a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Gasche, who afterwards located in Effington township. The children born to this union are Henry, Frank and Louis.

Mr. Wangerin and his wife have been valued members of the Lutheran church. Mr. Wangerin is interested in public affairs and is at present a member of the local school board. He is known as an expert farmer and as a man of integrity.

JORGEN A. FISKUM.

Jorgen A. Fiskum was born near Christiania, Norway, January 26, 1803, the son of Andrew and Johanna Fiskum, who were born in Norway, there grew to maturity, married, and are now living in the vicinity of their birthplace. Andrew Fiskum by trade is a shoemaker and in his native land enjoys a large patronage for his business. To the marriage of Andrew and Johanna Fiskum were born nine children, two of whom came to America, namely, Olavus, who was a shoemaker at Vining, Minnesota, and who later went to Fergus Falls, Minnesota, where he died, and Jorgen, the subject of this sketch.

Jorgen A. Fiskum was educated in the public schools of Norway, after which he worked on farms in that country until he was nineteen years of age and then he came to America and went to Vining, Minnesota, and for some time was employed generally on the farms of that locality. During the year 1880, Jorgen A. Fiskum purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land in section 28, of Folden township, which being uncleared he started to prepare for cultivation and to improve, adding such buildings as were necessary, until a few years later the farm was equipped with a modern house, a splendid barn, and in acreage had been doubled by the purchase of one hundred and sixty acres of land in section 26, a short distance away. Jorgen A. Fiskum proved a success as a farmer engaged in general agricultural pursuits and as a farmer engaged in the breeding of Guernsey cattle. Mr. Fiskum also took an active interest in the business affairs of the community, being a director of the Folden Telephone Company, and a man who at all times was willing to aid in the promotion of trade projects for the common good of the locality.

On June 9, 1880, Jorgen A. Fiskum, was married to Hannah Halvorson, who was born near Christiania, Norway, a daughter of Peter and Maren Halvorson, who were natives of Norway, and who came to America about the year 1870 and settled in Nidaros township, about two miles south of the town of Vining, where they now live, the father being about sixty-eight years of age and the mother about seventy years of age.

To the marriage of Jorgen and Hannah Fiskum were born thirteen children: Julia, who married Edward Ulland and lives at Mayville, North Dakota; Andrew, Emma, Alfred, Hjelm, Hilda, Helmer, Oscar, Ruth and Roy, who are twins; Edwin, Theodore and Lawrence.

Jorgen A. Fiskum was a prominent man of Folden township, as a holder of various offices having to do with the better elements of life represented in the county. For seventeen years Jorgen A. Fiskum served with dignity and unusual ability as treasurer of Folden township, and in the Free Lutheran church at Folden, of which Mr. Fiskum was a devout member, he served for some years as a trustee. Jorgen A. Fiskum, when called by death on March 11, 1914, left behind a host of friends who mourn the loss of this worthy citizen. He was a good neighbor, a kind friend, unselfish in his efforts towards others, and one who was generally loved and esteemed, not only in the vicinity of his late residence, but throughout the county.

JULIUS SEVERSON.

Julius Severson, a prosperous merchant of Clitherall, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, and the postmaster of Clitherall, is a native of Clitherall township, where he was born on August 21, 1873.

Mr. Severson is the son of John and Hannah (Hovren) Severson, both of whom were born in Norway, the former on February 2, 1842. They moved to St. Cloud, Minnesota, in 1870, where John Severson worked in a quarry. He assisted in taking out the stone which was used to build the normal school. In 1872 he moved to Clitherall township and took a homestead farm of one hundred and sixty acres. During the next few years he was busily engaged in improving the land. He died on this farm on July 11, 1912. His widow is now living at Clitherall. They were the parents of eight children, of whom Clara and Alfred are deceased. The living children are Julius, Clara, Jenetta, Christina, Jens and Nora. After the death of her first husband, Mr. Severson's mother was married to Paul Olson, of Parkers Prairie, Minnesota.

Julius Severson was reared on the old homestead farm and lived with his parents until about eighteen years old. He was educated in the public schools and, when old enough, took up the machine business at which he worked for a number of years. In 1899 Mr. Severson came to Clitherall and engaged in the restaurant and confectionery business. He has been engaged in this business ever since. In 1900 he was appointed postmaster of Clitherall and resigned in 1904. He was reappointed in 1900 and has held the office ever since. Mr. Severson owns the telephone exchange and is the agent for the Northwestern Telephone Company at this place.

In 1899 Julius Severson was married to Caroline Olson, who was born in Parkers Prairie, Minnesota, December 24, 1874, and who is the daughter of Paul Olson, now of Clitherall. Mr. and Mrs. Severson have one daughter, Evelyn Delores.

Mr. Severson has filled many positions of trust and responsibility within the gift of the people of Clitherall. Fraternally, he is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America and the Royal Neighbors of America.

N. P. R. NELSON.

N. P. R. Nelson is one of the most progressive agriculturists of Parkers Prairie township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, as well as one of the most active citizens and is fully worthy of the respect which he receives.

He is a son of the late Anders P. Nelson, who was born on January 8, 1835, in Furebu, Smaland, Sweden. Anders P. Nelson came to America in 1854 with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. N. D. Anderson. They were pioneers of Chisago county, Minnesota. Anders P. was a trusted employee of the government when the preliminary survey for the government road was made from St. Paul to Superior City, and continued at this kind of work for three seasons, the winters being spent in the pineries. In 1862 Mr. Nelson led the forces who intrenched the peninsula at Center City against an Indian outbreak which was pending. He was active in politics and a pioneer in many of the important events in the early settlement of upper Minnesota. In 1870 he moved to Parkers Prairie, being one of the first to settle in that fertile country. His home was the scene of many early gatherings, as it was the only one large enough to accommodate a meeting of any size. The first church and school in Parkers Prairie were held in his home and the first political meeting of those times was held there. Mr. Nelson afterward did considerable contract work, getting out a large part of the timber supplies for the Northern Pacific railroad which was being built. Mr. Nelson died in 1914 at Parkers Prairie, where he had moved from the homestead two years before.

N. P. R. Nelson, the subject of this sketch, was the third child of his parents. There were six children in the family. They are all living and are: Mrs. John A. Hawkinson, Mrs. Charles A. Bergquist and N. P. R. Nelson, all of Parkers Prairie; Mrs. C. A. Carlson, of Garrison, North Dakota; J. A. R. Nelson, of Deer Lodge, Montana; and J. G. Vasa Nelson, of Parkers Prairie, Minnesota. N. P. R. Nelson was born on May 24, 1873, on the old homestead at Parkers Prairie. He was educated in the common schools of the locality. From the time he was fourteen years of age he practically managed his father's farm, the father's business of carpenter and contractor taking him away from home a greater part of the time. As soon as he became of legal age his ability as a leader was recognized and he was elected to and held with credit many local positions of honor and trust in school and township affairs.

On December 21, 1898, N. P. R. Nelson was united in marriage to Augusta Sigfrid and their married life has been a particularly happy one. In 1901 Mr. Nelson went to Bismarek, North Dakota, where for two years, in company with his brother, J. A. R. Nelson, he managed the Grand Pacific hotel, a leading hostelry for politicians at the capital city of that state, and there he came to know much about matters which have been of help to him in later life. In 1903 he returned to Minnesota and for three years was agent for the Woodworth Elevator Company at Carlos and Parkers Prairie. In 1906 he went to Detroit, Minnesota, where he was in the mercantile business for a year, but disposed of his interests there in 1907 to accept a position with the North Dakota Grain Company, of Superior, Wisconsin, as traveling solicitor. In 1910 he resigned with this company to return to Parkers Prairie and take up the active management of his farm, where he has since remained.

Mr. Nelson is not only a progressive farmer, but is actively interested in co-operation among farmers along other lines. He is now secretary and treasurer of the Parkers Prairie Co-operative Creamery Company, which he was instrumental in organizing a number of years ago. He is also secretary of the Parkers Prairie Mutual Fire Insurance Company, an organization with over a million dollars of policies and is interested in and was first president of the Parkers Prairie Farmers Telephone Company, the pioneer of a system of co-operative companies which give his home locality a service which has grown from a small beginning to one second to none. Mr. Nelson's counsel and advice are eagerly sought by his friends and acquaintances as being worth while and he is one of the residents of Parkers Prairie to whom they refer with pride.

Mr. and Mrs. Nelson have three children: Earl E., born on June 17, 1900; Signe A., April 29, 1904, and Carl C., May 19, 1910.

MELVIN I. GRINA.

Among the merchants and citizens of Erhards Grove township, in Otter Tail county, Minnesota, few are better or more favorably known and appreciated for their work in the community than is Melvin I. Grina, who is a leading merchant of the town of Erhard, and an organizer and director of the larger interests in the locality.

Melvin I. Grina was born in Trondhjem township, this county, April 21, 1878, the son of Iver O. and Olena (Ohe) Grina, who were natives of Halan, Norway. Iver O. Grina was the son of Ole and Martha Grina, who came to America when Ivor O. was but three years of age, and settled at McGregor, Iowa, where they lived for about twenty years, and then, with his family, Ole Grina moved to Otter Tail county, Minnesota, and bought

a farm from the school land reservation, in Norwegian Grove township, a place on which he lived until his death in 1908, aged about eighty-four years.

Iver O. Grina, father of the subject of this sketch, was about twenty-three years of age when he moved with his father and family, from McGregor, Iowa, to Otter Tail county, Minnesota, where he bought one hundred and sixty acres of land in Trondhjem township, later adding one hundred and twenty acres of land, a farm which he improved extensively and cultivated until the year 1913, at that time selling his place and moving to the town of Pelican Rapids, where he now lives in retirement. Iver O. Grina has been a man prominent in the affairs and public life of the town of Trondhjem, not only taking an active interest in all general matters, but he has served for some years as a member of the school board and as township assessor.

When thirteen years of age, Olena Ohe came with her parents to America, her father, Lars Ohe, settling in the state of Iowa, where he lived for some time and then moved to Otter Tail county, Minnesota, locating in Erhards Grove township, there homesteading one hundred and sixty acres of land to which he added, later by purchase, eighty acres, living with his son, who cultivated the land until his death about the year 1895. Mrs. Olena (Ohe) Grina died on February 22, 1914, survived by her husband and eight children.

Iver O. and Olena Grina were the parents of nine children as follow: Ole, who is a lumberman of Halstead, Minnesota; Lars, who deals in lumber and machinery, at Felton, Minnesota; Melvin I., the subject of this sketch; Conrad, a lumber and machinery dealer of Borup, Minnesota; Joseph, who died in infancy; Joseph, who rents the farm of his father in Norwegian Grove township and now lives there; Inga, who lives with her brother, Melvin I., at Erhard, Minnesota; Theodore, who is an employee of his brother, Melvin, and Emma, who lives at home with her parents.

Melvin I. Grina received his education in the common schools of Otter Tail county, and at the Pelican Rapids school, after which he worked for his father until he had reached the age of twenty-two years. In the year 1900 he went to the state of North Dakota, there homesteading one hundred and sixty acres of land in Benson county, a place on which he lived for five years and then moved to Williams county, North Dakota, locating at the town of Kermit where he established himself in the lumber business, remaining in that business for two years, when he traded his stock with his partners in such a manner that he became a member of the firm of Stenersen Brothers Lumber Company, a company owning and operating four stations for the sale of its products, the headquarters of the concern being located at Felton, Minnesota.

During the spring of the year 1912, Melvin I. Grina came to the town of Erhard to care for the interests of the branch of his company located at this place, and while here arranged for and superintended the erection of a modern brick store building, in size twenty-five by seventy feet, in which building he now carries a stock of hardware, lumber and farm machinery valued at about twelve thousand dollars. In other lines of business than that of merchandising Melvin I. Grina has been notably connected, being one of the founders and now a stockholder in the Erhard State Bank, of Erhard, Minnesota.

Politically, Mr. Grina is independent of party and is a man who has preferred to serve his community as a private citizen rather than as an office holder. In church affiliation Melvin I. Grina is a member of the Norwegian Lutheran church, a denomination which he supports with his efforts and means in a most substantial way.

Melvin I. Grina has never married, but lives in a convenient and modern home, which is managed by his sister, Inga.

ELLSWORTH W. SMITH.

One of the most prominent old families of Otter Tail county, Minnesota, is that of Ellsworth W. Smith, a well-known lecturer on scientific farming in this state, who was born thirty miles east of Buffalo, in Bennington township, Wyoming county, New York, March 23, 1864. Mr. Smith is the son of Isaiah S. and Maria (Foster) Smith.

The paternal grandparents of Mr. Smith, Sardious and Isabel Smith, were natives of Vermont and, for many generations, were connected by blood ties with the oldest New England families. Sardious Smith was a pioneer in western New York, having immigrated to the "Holland Purchase," and settled in Bennington township in 1815. He died there at the age of ninety-six years. Although he carried a musket in the War of 1812, he was not an enlisted soldier. He was the leading man in his community and was highly respected as a citizen. He and his wife were members of the Baptist church. They were the parents of eight children. Mr. Smith's maternal grandparents were farmers in New England, who, very early in the last century, immigrated to Bennington township, Wyoming county, New York.

Ellsworth Smith's mother, who before her marriage was Maria Foster, was born at Belfast, New York, about 1820. His father, Isaiah S. Smith, was born in Bennington township, Wyoming county, in 1817. There they grew up and married. Isaiah S. Smith was a farmer, a contracting carpenter and a well-known builder of bridges, dams and mills. About 1866, he left New York state and made a trip to Nebraska, looking for a location. After remaining in Nebraska for six months, during which time he built a mill at

what is now Decatur, he returned to New York and remained until the fall of 1876, when the family moved to Wisconsin. There they lived for four years, but in the spring of 1881, came to Woodside township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, and purchased eighty acres of railroad land, which was then wild prairie. Here they built a frame house and began to cultivate the farm. Isaiah S. Smith died in 1893 and his wife in 1872. He was always active in local politics. There were four children in the Smith family, George D., who died in Whatcom county, Washington, where he was engaged in farming; Ann Augusta, who married William Van Dyke and died in the state of New York; Warren A., who died at the age of seventeen, and Ellsworth, the subject of this sketch.

Ellsworth W. Smith was educated in the public schools of New York state, Wisconsin and Minnesota. He was reared on the farm and, early in life, learned the carpenter trade. Having come into possession of his father's farm, he operated the place since coming here. In 1892 Mr. Smith built a barn, thirty by forty-two feet, and about 1908 erected an addition, which makes the barn now, thirty-six by seventy-six feet. He also has other barns and outbuildings. In 1902 he erected a good house.

Mr. Smith calls himself an all-around farmer, but makes a specialty of raising clover seed, potatoes and pure-blood Duroc-Jersey hogs. He keeps a drove of from fifty to seventy-five head and also operates a small dairy. He also breeds pure-blood barred Plymouth Rock chickens and generally has from eighty to one hundred hens.

For the past eight years, Mr. Smith has been employed by the farmers institute department of agriculture of the state of Minnesota, to address institutes all over the state. He spends from four to six months of each year in this work. Mr. Smith is the kind of a farmer who "takes something to town to sell every time he goes" and this is the slogan of his lecture, and the principle which he practices and preaches throughout this state. Mr. Smith has often exhibited products raised on his farm at nearby fairs. His wife, who is an expert cheese maker, took a prize at the state fair at one time. In their early lives, Mr. and Mrs. Smith experienced many hard times, but, by pluck and hard work, they have made a large success of farming. Mr. Smith is a director in the Farmers State Bank, at Bertha, Minnesota.

In 1887 Ellsworth W. Smith was married to Anna S. Streit, a native of Beaver county, Pennsylvania, and the daughter of Benjamin Streit, who was born in Missouri, of German parentage. Benjamin Streit came to Otter Tail county about 1878, but is now living at Roseburg, in Douglas county, Oregon.

Mr. and Mrs. Ellsworth W. Smith have six children, namely: Ralph,

who lives on the farm in Woodside township and is a graduate of the agricultural school; Roy A., who also lives on the farm in Woodside township; Ina G., who lives at home and was educated in the Parkers Prairie high school and at the Agricultural and Teachers Training school of St. Anthony Park; Clifford, who is a student in the Alexandria high school; Zetty and Marjorie, both of whom are at home.

Mr. Smith has filled practically all of the township offices but has always been especially interested in school affairs. He is independent in politics and prefers to vote for men whom he considers best fitted for the office. Fraternally, he is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America.

GEORGE W. SMITH.

George W. Smith was born in Holden, Massachusetts, December 27, 1831, a son of Jonas H. and Anna E. (Rogers) Smith, both of whom were natives of Holden, Massachusetts.

Jonas H. Smith lived in the state of Massachusetts until 1836, when he moved, with his family, to the state of Vermont, living there for the remainder of his days. Jonas H. and Anna E. Smith were the parents of six children, four daughters and two sons.

George W. Smith received his education in the common schools of Stratton, Vermont, after which he became a farmer; working on the home farm until 1855, when, at twenty-four years of age, he moved to the state of Minnesota and located in Carver township, Carver county, where he lived as a farmer until September, 1861. At this time Mr. Smith enlisted for service in the Civil War with Company A, Fourth Regiment, Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, with which command he served for three years. During that time he was stationed at Ft. Ridgely, among the Indians, for six months, later being transferred to Corinth, Mississippi, from which place he was moved as a part of the army fighting in the battles at Shiloh, Corinth and Vicksburg. During the last year of his military service George W. Smith was a part of the Veteran Reserve Corps stationed at Rock Island arsenal at Rock Island, Illinois.

After the close of the Civil War, Mr. Smith returned to Minnesota and made his home in Carver county, where he was active as a farmer and as a public official, until 1878, when he came to Otter Tail county, Minnesota, and homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of land in Dora township. On taking possession of his land George W. Smith cleared the place, added the necessary improvements and after some years as a pioneer farmer he improved his farm more substantially and has since made his home on this farm, now being accorded a place among the leading farmers of this com-

munity in which he has proved such a worthy and useful element of citizenship.

Some time after moving to Minnesota, Mr. Smith was married to Sarah DeMerse, who was a native of Minnesota. George W. and Sarah Smith became the parents of four children: Frank H., who was born on June 16, 1860; Ida R., September 16, 1865; Lula E., February 21, 1868, and Marion E., March 23, 1872. After the death of his wife, Sarah, George W. Smith was married, secondly, in 1875, to Hannah Nelson, who was born on November 19, 1851, in Sweden. George W. and Hannah Smith became the parents of six children: Artmas, born on February 6, 1878; Evaline T., December 4, 1880; Zelpha N., December 22, 1882; Herbert W., July 18, 1885; Matilda, February 21, 1888, and George L., August 5, 1890.

As a citizen who has been prominent in the public and official life of Otter Tail county, Minnesota, and of other communities where he has made his home, George W. Smith is known as one who has made an enviable record and as one who has done no little in bringing about the present high development of the community life. While a resident of Carver county, Mr. Smith was known as a most trustworthy and faithful deputy sheriff and after moving to this county his ability was soon demonstrated in his successful efforts to establish and maintain a township organization with efficient schools and educational facilities. For many years Mr. Smith was a faithful and influential member of the school board in Dora township, this county, and during several terms of office he was chairman of the township board of supervisors, as well as having served in his usual able manner as township treasurer, for many years. Politically, Mr. Smith is an ardent Republican. In church circles George W. Smith is well known, his activity as a member and as an official of the Presbyterian church of this community being an important part in the religious life of Dora township.

PETER HANSEN.

Born in Sweden on February 24, 1855, Peter Hansen, a successful farmer of Nidaros township, this county, is the son of Hans and Mary Anderson, who spent their entire lives in their native land. Hans Anderson died in 1870 and his wife in 1901. They were the parents of seven children, of whom two, Andrew and Johanna, the eldest and youngest, are deceased. The living children are Peter, the subject of this sketch, Ole, Magnus, Nels and Anna.

Peter Hansen was educated in Sweden and in 1862 came to America and, for five years, or until 1867, worked on a farm in Otter Tail county. In 1867 Mr. Hansen purchased one hundred and fifty-five acres of land in section 25, of Clitherall township. There he erected a house and barn and

erected all of the buildings which are now standing on the farm. These buildings include a good house and barn. Mr. Hansen is a progressive farmer in every respect. He has made a splendid success of general farming and stock raising.

In 1882, several years before coming to America, Peter Hansen was married in Sweden to Anna Hansen, who was born in Sweden in 1862, the daughter of Matthias and Anna Swensen, who never came to America. Mr. and Mrs. Peter Hansen have seven children, Albin, Hilda, Selma, Ellen, Fred, Esther and Ruth. Mr. and Mrs. Hansen are members of the Swedish Lutheran church at Eagle Lake. Mr. Hansen has never taken any special part in politics, but is interested in local affairs and has given his time and energy to the promotion of public improvements and to matters affecting the general welfare. He is a well-known and popular citizen and is well liked by all who know him.

MARTIN MORTENSON.

Born on the farm where he now resides in Tordenskjold township, August 26, 1886, Martin Mortenson, a successful young farmer of Otter Tail county is the son of Jeppe and Marie (Larson) Mortensen, both of whom were natives of Denmark. The father came to this county in 1863 and the mother in 1869.

Jeppe Mortenson came immediately to Otter Tail county, Minnesota, after arriving in America. Here he homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of land in Tordenskjold township. After clearing a place for a home he erected a small log cabin with a sod roof, and there lived as a bachelor for six years. He was then married and continued living on the farm. Gradually he cleared different parts of the farm and in the meantime marketed all his produce and bought all of his supplies at St. Cloud. During this period of his life the Indians were plentiful in the vicinity, but were entirely friendly. Here he lived until his death in 1910, at the age of seventy-one years. His wife died in the spring of 1914, at the age of about seventy years. They were both members of the Lutheran church, and Jeppe Mortenson was one of the founders of the church in Tordenskjold township. Prior to coming to this country he had served in the Danish army. To Jeppe and Marie Mortenson were born two children, Martin and Christena, the latter of whom is the wife of Emil Holbeck, of Dane Prairie township.

Martin Mortenson received his education in the common schools of Otter Tail county, and was reared on his father's farm. Being the only son he naturally took up farming and during his father's declining years operated the farm, and finally he purchased the interests of his sister in the home

farm and erected modern farm buildings and made other substantial improvements on the home place. Mr. Mortenson has made a splendid success as a breeder of pure-blood Holstein and Shorthorn cattle, as well as Chester White hogs. He is a prominent stockholder and director of the Underwood Creamery Company.

In July, 1910, Martin Mortenson was married to Carrie Nygaard, a native of Norway and the daughter of Rasmus Rasmussen, but the adopted daughter of Nils Olson Nygaard. Both of Mrs. Mortenson's parents died when she was a small girl, and she was brought to America by her adopted parents. Mr. and Mrs. Mortenson are the parents of two children, Joseph, born on February 21, 1911, and Carter, born on September 16, 1913.

Mr. and Mrs. Mortenson are members of the Lutheran church, in which they take an active and interested part. Fraternally, Mr. Mortenson is a member of the Danish Brotherhood. He is independent in politics.

LEWIS HANSON.

Born on March 20, 1867, the late Lewis Hanson, who was a well-to-do farmer of Everts township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, was a son of Andrew and Martha (Erickson) Hanson, both of whom were natives of Norway. Andrew Hanson was born in Norway in 1834, and Martha Erickson was born in the same country on July 4, 1839. They were married in Norway, and in pioneer times emigrated to America and settled in Grant county, Minnesota. They were also pioneer settlers in Otter Tail county, where they removed from Grant county. They took a homestead in St. Olaf township, a farm of one hundred and sixty acres, and bought three hundred and twenty acres in sections 8 and 9, about 1880. Lewis Hanson's parents are still living on the old homestead in St. Olaf township. Andrew Hanson broke up his land from the raw prairie, and made many substantial improvements on the place and is now living retired. He and his good wife are members of the Lutheran church. They were the parents of eight children, of whom Lewis was the fourth child. The others are John Edward, Tilda, Fred, Anne, John, Carl and Anton.

Lewis Hanson was educated principally in the schools of Otter Tail county, Minnesota. He came to Everts township with his parents, and located on one hundred and sixty acres of land which he purchased of his father, and here he lived until his death in 1913.

On January 21, 1893, Lewis Hanson was married to Nettie Dahl, who was born in Everts township on May 22, 1872, and who is a daughter of Ole H. and Karen (Glende) Dahl, both of whom were born in Norway, the former in 1847 and the latter in 1848. Ole Dahl and Karen Glende

both came to America and settled in Otter Tail county, Minnesota, in 1871, and were married in this county. After their marriage, Mrs. Hanson's father purchased a farm of one hundred and thirty-three acres in section 17, in Everts township. He died on this farm in 1882. His widow is now living, at the age of sixty-eight years. They were the parents of three children, Nettie, Andrew, and Sophia, who is deceased.

Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Hanson are the parents of four children: Ole A., born on November 27, 1893, lives at home on the farm; Clarence M., June 7, 1897, also lives at home; Clara, December 9, 1899; Mathilda, February 11, 1904.

The late Lewis Hanson made many improvements upon his farm in Everts township. In 1898 he built a magnificent residence, and in addition to the erection of many good farm buildings he also fenced his farm and installed a good system of drainage. Mr. Hanson was well known in the community where he spent a great deal of his life. His widow is still living on the farm, and is a highly respected and refined woman.

ANDREW DIETLEIN.

Among the well-known farmers and stock raisers of Dead Lake township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, is Andrew Dietlein, who was born in Edna township, this county, on May 30, 1878, the son of Philip and Christiana (Eixtine) Dietlein, natives of Germany, the former born in 1856, the latter in 1858. Philip Dietlein came to America when a young man and following his marriage at New York City, came to Otter Tail county and settled in Edna township, where he homesteaded forty acres of land, a place which he later sold and then bought one hundred and twenty acres of land in Edna township, where he now lives. Philip and Christiana Dietlein are the parents of the following children: Mary, Andrew, Peter, Maggie (deceased), Ignatius, Nicholas, Matilda, Barbara, Dora, Sophia, Annie and Robert.

Andrew Dietlein was educated in the public schools of Perham township, Otter Tail county, and in the schools of Edna township, after which he worked as a farm helper for some time and then, in 1903, he bought one hundred and sixty acres of land in section 8, Dead Lake township, where he is now engaged in general farming and in stock raising, together with the operating of a threshing machine throughout the community.

During the year 1903, Andrew Dietlein was married to Johanna Smelz, who was born in Rush Lake township, in 1879, the daughter of Henry and Katherina Smelz, of Perham township. To the marriage of Andrew and Johanna Dietlein have been born five children: Maggie, Rosie, Mary, Henry

(deceased), and Tillie. Mr. Dietlein and his family are communicants of the Catholic church. Johanna, the wife of Andrew Dietlein died on May 24, 1912.

NIELS THYGESEN.

Niels Thygesen, who has been a prominent citizen of Otter Tail county, Minnesota, ever since coming to this county nearly fifty years ago, was born in Denmark on August 29, 1841. His old home was a part of Denmark and is now a German possession.

Mr. Thygesen's parents, Peter Jessen and Inger (Hansen) Thygesen, spent their entire lives in their native land and were farmers by occupation. They had seven children, of whom Niels was the fifth born. The other children, in the order of their birth, were Maren, who married Hans Nissen and who died in Denmark; Thomas, who was a soldier in the War of 1864 and who died in Denmark about 1895; Hans, also a soldier in the Danish-German War of 1864, died in Denmark a few years after the war; Maria, who married Hans Nelson and died in Denmark; Anders, when last heard from, was a resident of New Zealand, and Christian, whose residence is unknown.

Niels Thygesen was educated in the common schools of his native land and, when he had reached his majority, entered the Danish army, serving in the war between Denmark and Germany in 1864 and 1865. He served as a marine in the coast defense at Mellemfort, and, after the war, returned home and worked as a laborer. He did not prosper, however, under German rule, since that country had captured the part of Denmark where he had previously lived. In 1866 Mr. Thygesen came to America and, for a time, lived at Carson, a small town west of Rochester, Minnesota, on the terminus of the railroad at that time. Afterward he spent two years at Winona.

It was in 1866 that Mr. Thygesen came to America. He spent eleven weeks and three days on a sailing vessel, sailing from Hamburg and landing in New York City on February 3, of the same year. During the voyage he suffered a great many hardships. The rudder of the ship was broken and the ship was torn almost to pieces by a storm. The ship drifted south to the equator and forty-six people died of the heat at Christmas time. Although Mr. Thygesen himself was very sick, he recovered. From New York City he went by rail as far west as he could travel and at that time the extreme western terminal of the railroad was Carson, Minnesota. At Carson Mr. Thygesen was employed on a farm. At Winona, Minnesota, he worked as a fireman on a steamboat.

In April, 1868, Mr. Thygesen came to Otter Tail county, bringing with



EARLY HOME OF NIELS THYGESEN.

One of the First Houses in Dane Prairie Township.



MR. AND MRS. NIELS THYGESSEN.

him an ox team. After arriving in this county he homesteaded one hundred and sixty-seven acres of land in Dane Prairie township and was one of the first homesteaders in the township. The land was covered partially with timber and Mr. Thygesen broke and cleared his land. His first log house had a sod roof. About fifteen years later this house was replaced by a frame house, a part of which is still standing. Mr. Thygesen lived on this farm for about thirty-five years and then sold out and purchased one hundred and ten acres one-half mile north of his original farm. He was engaged in general farming and stock raising. He sold the farm, however, in 1912, but remained upon it until 1913, when he moved to Underwood and purchased the home where he now lives retired.

About 1871 Niels Thygesen was married to Christine Jensen, a native of Denmark and the daughter of Ole Hansen, who died in Denmark. There were no children born to this marriage. In 1906, Mr. Thygesen was married to Olea Randine Olson, a native of Norway and the daughter of Ole Christian Olson, who died in his native land. Mrs. Thygesen came to America about 1899.

When Niels Thygesen first came to Minnesota, Indians were plentiful in this state and for some years afterward. Generally they were friendly, but on one April morning when Mr. Thygesen was working in the field with his oxen, his little dog came out barking and teasing his master to return to the house. Mr. Thygesen unhitched his oxen and went home. On reaching the house he overheard some Indians talking and found their guns standing by a tree. He went indoors and greeted them as though he was a stranger. There were two Indians who were busily engaged in helping themselves to the flour which he had purchased at Alexandria and for which he had paid fourteen dollars a barrel. Watching his opportunity he seized his revolver from the wall and ordered them to put the flour back. They obeyed and he ordered them to leave the premises. Fearing he had been too harsh, Mr. Thygesen gave them a half loaf of bread and they went away highly pleased, calling him a good man and never molested him any more. Bears were plentiful in the pioneer days of the state and were sometimes dangerous. When Mr. Thygesen was duck hunting one October evening, about twenty rods north of the house in a thicket, he met a bear and two cubs. He followed them for some distance with nothing but a shot gun and knew that he could not get another gun. Finally he shot one of the cubs and the old bear attacked him. Mr. Thygesen ran and the dog attacked the bear, during which time Mr. Thygesen escaped. The bear was pursued by Mr. Thygesen and a neighbor, but it was not found.

For many years Niels Thygesen was active in the councils of the Repub-

lican party in this township. It was in his house, in fact, that Dane Prairie township was organized. He was appointed by the county board as the first assessor of Buse, Aastad and Dane Prairie townships and was elected the first assessor of Dane Prairie. He has held all the township offices and was re-elected many times to the position of assessor of Dane Prairie township. He also served several terms on the board of supervisors and in all of this period never sought office. Both Mr. Thygesen and his second wife are active in the Free Lutheran church of Tordenskjold township. The services were held in his house before the church was erected.

Niels Thygesen is a worthy citizen of this great state, a man who is most cordial in all of his relations with his neighbors and who enjoys the confidence of many friends made in the course of a long residence in this county.

FRANK B. SAUNDERS.

Frank B. Saunders is a son of one of the pioneers of Parkers Prairie, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, and himself has undergone many hardships incidental to pioneer life. He was born on February 29, 1856, in Osceola, Wisconsin, and is the son of J. W. Saunders and Christina (Peterson) Saunders, natives of Massachusetts and Smoland, Sweden, respectively. J. W. Saunders was born on August 9, 1818, in South Gardner, Massachusetts, and his wife was born in 1832.

J. W. Saunders received his education in the public schools of his native state and in 1848 he removed to Beloit, Wisconsin, where he remained for one year and then changed his location to Stillwater, Washington county, Minnesota. In 1853 he purchased eighty acres of land, under the homestead law, near Osceola, Wisconsin, and, beside operating his little farm, he also ran a grist-mill at Osceola. In 1861, he removed to Marine Mills, Washington county, Minnesota, where he was employed as a cook on a steamboat which operated on the St. Croix river until May, 1868, at which time he started for the West with a friend and they traveled on horseback. Some place between Osakis and Parkers Prairie, Minnesota, they overtook a party of road cutters and assisted in completing the road to Parkers Prairie, which work lasted for three days only. Upon his arrival in Parkers Prairie, Mr. Saunders immediately settled on a squatter's claim and soon returned to Marine Mills preparatory to moving his family to their new home. They were compelled to travel overland with horses and covered wagon and to Frank B. Saunders, who was then a lad of twelve years, befell the task of following behind with the flock of sheep, thirteen cattle and one yoke of oxen. They followed the government trail from St. Cloud, Minnesota, and encountered many hardships by the way.

Money was scarce and J. W. Saunders was forced to return to Washington county, Minnesota, in the winter that the family might not want the necessities of life. The farm was located a great distance from the railroad and in the Indian danger zone. Shortly after they began their residence in that locality Mr. Saunders made the journey to Sauk Center, Minnesota, for supplies. While returning home he heard the report that Indians were on the war-path and that the families were fleeing to the stockade at Sauk Center. Much excited for fear his family was in danger, he hurried home to find them all safe and determined to stay and protect their home. After a hasty consultation they decided this was the best policy and were delighted to discover that the report had been a false one. In 1882 Mr. Saunders received the deed from the government to the farm of one hundred and sixty acres, and the family continued to reside on this place, in Eastern township, until his death. There were six children in the family and their names follow: Frank B., Lillie, Emma, Arthur, Eva and Charles. J. W. Saunders and his wife were members of the Baptist church. Politically, he was a member of the Prohibition party and an ardent supporter of same.

Frank B. Saunders received his education in the common schools of Washington county, Minnesota, and in Parkers Prairie, Otter Tail county. When a boy of fourteen he returned to Washington county, Minnesota, where he was employed in the lumber business and his earnings were given for the support of the family he had left in Otter Tail county, this support continuing for eight years. However, he continued in the lumber business until he was twenty-eight years of age and then returned to Otter Tail county, and purchased the old home, consisting of one hundred and sixty acres, and also purchased eighty acres more which was added to the original holdings, making a total of two hundred and forty acres with which to begin his agricultural operations. The farm now consists of four hundred acres. In February, 1889, he engaged in the hardware and implement business under the firm name of Saunders & Post, which partnership continued for five years. In 1894, Frank B. Saunders sold his interest in the business to Mr. Post and almost immediately entered into a partnership with J. A. Johnson under the firm name of Saunders & Johnson. In 1912 the partnership was changed and became Saunders & Son. In connection with the general hardware and implement business which they conduct, they also do a prosperous automobile business.

On April 2, 1882, Frank B. Saunders was united in marriage to Vina Lamb and to their union four children have been born: Roy J., Lula A., Benjamin H. and Winefred. Vina (Lamb) Saunders passed away in September, 1908. She was the daughter of Smith Lamb and her birth occurred on May 18, 1856. Frank B. Saunders is a member of the Baptist

church in which he serves the congregation as a director. Politically, he is a staunch Republican and has served his community as county commissioner. He was elected in 1886 and served until 1890. He is very active on all questions pertaining to the welfare of his fellow citizens and has many friends.

ED C. GRANRUD.

Ed C. Granrud was born on the Granrud homestead in Trondhjem township, December 21, 1889, the son of Christian and Dena (Quamme) Granrud. Christian Granrud was born in Norway, December 21, 1859, the son of Even and Kari Granrud, and Dena Quamme was born in Norway, February 12, 1870, the daughter of Rogland and Maria (Fraas) Quamme.

Even Granrud was a native of Norway, in which country he married, and about the year 1864 came to America and settled in Fillmore county, Minnesota, where he worked on a farm for about two years and then came to Otter Tail county, Minnesota, and homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of land in section 1, of Trondhjem township, a place which he cleared of the wild timber and the prairie soil of which he broke up, then built a log house in which he lived for some time, later building a frame house, which was the first house of the kind to be erected in the community, Even Granrud living in this house as a farmer until his death, in the fall of the year 1890. Kari Granrud died in the spring of the year 1893. Even and Kari Granrud were the parents of the following children: Ole, who lives in Erhards Grove township, where he is a farmer; Even, who is a farmer and music teacher, living in Erhards Grove township; Martin, a farmer who died in Pelican township; Christian, father of the subject of this sketch; John, who is a professor of languages at the University of Minnesota, and two children who died in Norway, while infants.

Christian Granrud was educated in the public schools of Norway and later in the schools of Fillmore county, Minnesota, after which he came to Otter Tail county, Minnesota, with his parents, and lived on the home place until the year 1893, when he purchased the farm of his father, adding other land until he was the owner of two hundred acres, which he improved extensively and where he engaged in general agricultural pursuits and stock raising for the remainder of his days. Christian Granrud died on October 24, 1903.

On December 16, 1866, Christian Granrud was married to Dena Quamme, who was born in Bergen, Norway, the daughter of Rognald and Maria (Fraas) Quamme, who lived in their native land of Norway until the year 1882, and then came to America, settling in Norwegian Grove township, of Otter Tail county, where Rognald Quamme homesteaded a farm

on which he lived for a time and then sold it and moved to a place three miles east of the town of Pelican Rapids, where he lived until the year 1914, when he sold this farm and moved to Pelican Rapids, where he and his wife now live a retired life. Christian and Dena Granrud were the parents of nine children, namely: Ed, who died at the age of eleven months; Ed, the subject of this sketch; Carl, who lives at home; Mabel, Oscar, Julia, Olga, George and Clara.

Ed C. Granrud was educated in the public schools of this county, after which he aided his father on the farm until purchasing it from the elder Granrud. He has improved the place and with one hundred and twenty acres of rented land adjoining, he engages extensively in general farming, being known as a young farmer who adopts and follows the most approved and scientific methods of cultivation. Ed C. Granrud is unmarried.

The Granrud family is one of the most highly respected in the community, not only because of their activity and work in the Norwegian Lutheran church, of which they are leading members, but on account of their interest and support of those things which are making for the enlightenment and general welfare of the township and county.

FRED J. COCKING.

A life of consecutive industry has been that of Fred J. Cocking, who although interested in many lines of work, devotes the greater part of his time to stock raising and general farming. He is the son of Thomas and Elizabeth (Dannett) Cocking and was born in Clinton county, Iowa, on the 15th of July, 1860. His parents were natives of England and after their marriage lived in Lincolnshire, where Mr. Cocking was employed as a nurseryman. The couple came to America about 1852 and settled in Philadelphia, where Thomas Cocking opened a florist's shop and continued to work at his chosen occupation on a small tract of land outside the city. A short time after their arrival in this country, Mr. and Mrs. Cocking moved to Clinton county, Iowa. In that community Thomas Cocking bought a farm located near the village of Welton, in Welton township. In connection with the regular duties of the farm he continued to use a part of his time for horticultural interests. He lived on this farm until his death, which occurred in 1866. His wife died in January, 1880. Her last days were spent near Grinnell, Iowa, with her children. During her life she was a devout member of the Methodist Episcopal church. Of the twelve children born to Mr. and Mrs. Cocking six grew to maturity, as follow: Annie Marie became the wife of Thomas Maltas, and has lived in DeWitt, Iowa, for a number of years; Elizabeth Ann married B. F. Stockwell, and lived in Grinnell,

Iowa, for a number of years before her death, which occurred in the state of Louisiana; Mary Jane, who became the wife of Leroy D. Forehand, lived until her death in Grinnell, Iowa; Thomas J. lives in Portland, Oregon, where he is a minister in the United Brethren church; Charles, a farmer, resides in Silver City, Texas; Fred J. is referred to in this sketch.

Fred J. Cocking, after completing the course in the common schools near Grinnell, Iowa, attended the Grinnell Academy. After finishing at the academy he decided to take up the occupation of teaching, which he practiced for four years in Poweshiek county. At the end of that time he rented a farm near Chester. After a short time he bought one hundred and sixty acres of land in the same township, and managed this farm until 1904. During three years of his residence on this farm Mr. Cocking conducted a general merchandise store at Chester and later at Grinnell.

Otter Tail county, Minnesota, attracted Mr. Cocking in 1904, when he came to this community and bought two hundred and forty acres of land in section 19, Dunn township, and eighty acres in the village of Pelican Rapids. Later he traded the eighty-acre tract for a farm of two hundred and forty acres adjoining his larger farm. Mr. Cocking lived on this land, which was improved, for three years and during that time devoted his interests to stock raising and general farming. He is living at the present time in Pelican Rapids, where he owns fifty acres of land in the village corporation. His special occupation is the rearing of Poland China hogs. The farm owned by him in Dunn township is managed by two of his sons. Throughout his career as a business man, Mr. Cocking has shown a keen interest in affairs pertaining to the welfare of the community in which he lives. He assisted in organizing the Farmers Co-operative Shipping Association, of which he is a director. In his political interests, Mr. Cocking is an independent voter and before coming to Otter Tail county served as township assessor and school treasurer in the district in Iowa in which he resided.

On the 13th of March, 1883, Fred J. Cocking was married to Ida A. Bacon, a native of Vermont, and the daughter of Joshua and Mary Jane (Humphrey) Bacon. To the union of Mr. and Mrs. Cocking the following children have been born: Edward, who resides on the farm in Dunn township; George, now a farmer in Dunn township, attended business college in Fargo and in Minneapolis, and for two years was a book-keeper in Fargo; Esther Grace, who lives at home, is a junior in the high school at Pelican Rapids, and Horace, who is at home with his parents.

Joshua and Mary Jane (Humphrey) Bacon were natives of Vermont, but were married in Carlisle, Indiana. In 1865 they moved to Poweshiek county, Iowa, where Mr. Bacon followed the occupation of a farmer. He

retired in later life to Grinnell, Iowa, where he is living at the present time. Mr. and Mrs. Bacon reared a family of the following children: Etta, the widow of Milton Sears, who lives with her father at Grinnell; Fred, who died in Chester in 1889; Ida, the wife of Fred J. Cocking; William, who died in Grinnell in 1882; Albert, a farmer residing in Grinnell, Iowa; Hiram, a farmer at Burt, Iowa; Hattie, the wife of Frank Wesco, of Newburg, Iowa, and Edith, who died in 1882.

HERMAN HOSTERMAN.

Herman Hosterman was born in Germany, April 21, 1845, the son of Henry and Adelhiede Hosterman, who lived in Germany, in which country they were born. They came to America, locating in Carver county, where they lived for some years and then moved to Otter Tail county, Minnesota, where they lived until their death. Henry Hosterman died on February 14, 1885, and Adelhiede Hosterman died on March 26, 1891.

Mr. and Mrs. Hosterman were the parents of four children, all of whom were born in Germany, and came with the parents to America. The children were Henry, who married Mary Burgner and lives at Waconia, Minnesota; Adolph, who was a soldier in the Civil War and died at Memphis; Elizabeth, who married Philip Luthiener and lives at Waconia, and Herman, the subject of this sketch.

Herman Hosterman was educated in the public schools of Germany, after which he came to America and settled in Otter Tail county, Minnesota, where he became a farmer on two hundred and forty acres of land which he owned. He also operated a saw-mill on the river near his home. On taking possession of his land, part of which he homesteaded and a portion of which he purchased from the Northern Pacific Railway Company, Herman Hosterman proceeded to clear his land and to build the necessary buildings together with the preparing of his soil for cultivation, later erecting new and more modern buildings, on his land, which after a short time proved to be among the best and most productive of the community, devoted to general farming and stock raising.

On March 26, 1883, Herman Hosterman was married to Albertine Ott, who was born in Germany, and who came alone to America in the year 1881. To the marriage of Herman and Albertine Hosterman were born the following children: Emma, who married Sever Orphus; Augusta, who married Oscar Schow; Elsie; Cecilia, who married Charles Danschen; Selma, Clarence, Frances and John. Herman Hosterman was an active and faithful member of the German Lutheran church, a denomination of which his widow and children and now members and in which church they are interested and devout workers.

NILS HAAGENSON.

Nils Haagenson, a native of Norway, was born on September 25, 1848, and is a son of Haagen and Amelia (Nelson) Hermanson. Herman Olson, the grandfather of Nils Haagenson, was a large landowner in his community and lived and died in his native country. He was a soldier of the War of 1814. He was a prominent and active member of the Lutheran church.

Haagen Hermanson, the father of Nils Haagenson, received his education in the public schools of his native country, where he grew to manhood and came to America in 1861 with his family. They landed in Quebec, after a voyage of nine weeks in a sail boat. The family moved to St. Peter, Minnesota, where Mr. Hermanson purchased three hundred and sixty acres of land, living there until the time of his death, in 1910, reaching the age of ninety years. The wife and mother died in 1907. The family were members of the Lutheran church and were very active in the work. They were the parents of ten children, seven of whom grew up: Nils, Herman (deceased), Margaret (deceased), Lars (deceased), Sisel, Ole and Olive, the latter of whom is and has been a missionary in China for the past twenty years. The old homestead is now occupied by Ole, the youngest of the children.

Nils Haagenson attended school in Norway, where he lived until he was thirteen years of age, when he came to America with his parents and completed his school work in the common schools of Nicollet county. He left home when eighteen years old and went to Minneapolis, where he lived for four years and while there was married to Mary Johnson in 1870, when they moved to St. Cloud. He left his wife in St. Cloud and went out looking for land. He started from St. Cloud on April 3, 1871, on foot, in company with two others, and walked to Alexandria, but owing to the fact that the snow had just melted, the creeks were so high that they had to hire a team there to take them to Fergus Falls, where they started out on foot again and walked over a great part of Otter Tail county and finally located a claim in Oscar township, in section 32. Then Nils Haagenson walked all the way back to St. Cloud. The first part of June, the following year, he secured a young pair of horses, a cow and a heifer and, with his wife, started for the homestead in a covered wagon. Here he cut logs and built a log cabin about sixteen feet square, in which they made their home, which in those days was considered a good house. As he only had a pair of horses and all his neighbors had oxen he could not do any breaking but had to hire it done. That year he got only four acres broke, for which he had to pay five dollars per acre. Late in the fall he traded his team of horses for two yoke of oxen and he felt very much relieved. He made two pair of bob-

sleighs out of oak logs and commenced hauling logs. He took two yoke of oxen and two sleighs and chopped two loads while others chopped one. They went in the government timber and cut posts, rails and wood.

In the early part of February, in 1873, Mr. Haagenson was caught in a severe snow storm and when three miles from home he could not get any further but had to take shelter with a farmer and got to Mr. Kievell's place. Here he found room for one yoke of oxen in the stable but the snow had drifted so it was even with the top of the door and he had to dig it out to get the oxen in. He got room for the other yoke of oxen in a shed, which was also covered with snow, and while digging the door out one of the oxen wandered away and was lost in the blizzard. It was found five days later frozen to death. The blizzard lasted three days. In the spring, after fencing in his field, he went out to work on the railroad, where he earned money to buy another ox. After doing the haying and harvest he started out with his two yoke of oxen and a third one which he drove on shares, and commenced hauling freight for the government. He made one trip from Breckenridge, Minnesota, which was their loading point, to Jamestown, North Dakota, in company with another, the two of them driving seven yoke of oxen and seven wagons loaded with freight. Returning to Breckenridge he wanted to make another trip, but found that the only thing there to haul was three loads for Ft. Totten which no one wanted to take, and the freight master could not make any one make that long trip alone, so Mr. Haagenson took these loads with his three yoke of oxen, and his partner returned home with the other four. He made the trip alone over country which he had never traveled before, taking eleven days to make the trip. On the ninth and tenth days it rained all day and on the eleventh day it snowed and turned into a very severe blizzard from the northwest. When he got into Ft. Totten his clothing, which had been drenched for three days, was frozen stiff. When he notified the quartermaster that he was there with the loads, the quartermaster told him he would not unload in such "dog weather" as that was; but when Mr. Haagenson told him that he would not be responsible for the loads, which still were in good condition, he sent a number of soldiers to unload them and Mr. Haagenson had all he could do to make the oxen stand still while they were unloading. He finally got his oxen in a log stable used by the government butcher. After waiting there for three days for the storm to subside and the snow to disappear, he started for home. While there he learned that a company of soldiers were going to move to Ft. Abercrombie and he got a chance to haul their trunks and two families from Ft. Totten to Ft. Abercrombie. The weather turned out to be nice and he made fifty dollars extra on this trip on the way home.

In 1873 there came up a big wind storm from the northwest and to

protect his property from a prairie fire, which was at a distance, Mr. Haagen-son set out to start a back-fire outside of a fire break, when a gust of wind blew a tuft of burning grass across and set fire to three large stacks of hay (all he had), barely saving his four grain stacks when the fire was put out—it was about three feet away from them. After this he started for Breckenridge to earn some money to buy hay with. He started from Breckenridge to Ft. Wadsworth with two loads, sixty-five miles. Getting five miles out he camped, but in the middle of the night had to break camp on account of a snow storm. Getting out twelve miles, where there was a settler (the only one on this whole distance), he went to get some hay. When he came back one of his ox-teams had become entangled and thrown. To release them he had to cut the bows. One ox got up, the other had broken his neck. Then he could get no further and had to unload and return home.

After having his homestead fairly well improved, feeling one hundred and sixty acres not enough, Mr. Haagen-son bought more land, later gradually increasing his acreage from time to time as he felt able to. He has now placed his children each with a nice farm and has left for himself over two sections of land (part in North Dakota). He now lives in Fergus Falls, Minnesota, where he has bought a commodious residence on the corner of Vernon avenue and Court street, where after many years of hard work he proposes to take life more leisurely. His children are: Annie, now Mrs. Julius Skooholt, of Dwight, North Dakota; Herman, a retired farmer of Fergus Falls; John, an attorney of Fergus Falls; Alfred, proprietor of Christiania hotel and cafe, Fergus Falls; Emily, now Mrs. Bernard Lein, of Carlisle, Minnesota; Nicolai, a farmer at Carlisle, Minnesota.

ANDREW T. LUND.

Andrew T. Lund was born at Vining, Minnesota, December 21, 1885, the son of Andrew T. and Annie K. (Amundson) Lund, both of whom were natives of Norway, the father being born in the year 1848, at a settlement called Lund, in Kolvereid, Nandalen, and the mother being born near Christiania, in the year 1850. When seventeen years of age, Andrew T. Lund, Sr., in the year 1866, came to America, making the trip alone, while his wife, as a girl, came to this country with her mother and father. Andrew T. Lund and the parents of Annie Amundson settled at Hudson, Wisconsin, where Andrew Lund was engaged in logging on the St. Croix river for ten years, and during which time he was married, and later he and his wife moved, in the year 1879, to Otter Tail county, Minnesota, where they took up a homestead of about one hundred and sixty acres of land in Nidaros township, a place where now a part of the town of Vining is located. On taking possession of his land, Andrew T. Lund proceeded to clear the land

and to plant crops, together with the erecting of a log house in which to live, at the same time buying grain for the Andrews & Gage Grain Company, at Minneapolis. A few years later Mr. Lund leased the local elevator from his former employers and for the next twenty years he conducted this industry on his own responsibility, being interested in the only lumber yard at Vining during the same time. In 1904 Andrew T. Lund discontinued the grain business and organized a private bank, which he conducted until 1908, and then the institution was incorporated as Lund's State Bank, a financial house which the sons of Mr. Lund now operate.

Andrew T. Lund, Sr., was a most active man during his entire life and held many important positions. Mr. Lund was a member of the firm of Nyhus & Lund, general merchants; he took an important part in the organization of St. Luke's Hospital at Fergus Falls, Minnesota, an institution of which he was a trustee for some years; he was instrumental in securing for the town of Vining a railway siding from the Northern Pacific railway, and he was the donor of the land and one of those who secured funds for the building of the Lutheran church at Vining, a church in which for many years he was a trustee. Andrew T. Lund, Sr., was a Republican in politics and was at one time the candidate of his party for a seat in the United States Congress; he served in several local offices, including a place on the school board and other offices in the township and in the town of Vining. Mr. Lund was a member of the Modern Woodmen of America, the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and was prominent in the organization of the Sons of Norway, at Vining. Andrew T. Lund was one of the most honored men of Otter Tail county and but for the fact that the state of Minnesota possessed one postoffice named Lund, the present town of Vining would now bear that name. Andrew T. Lund, Sr., died on December 16, 1908, his wife having preceded him in death about four years, she dying on July 3, 1904.

To Andrew T. and Annie Lund were born the following children: Thea, who married the Rev. J. C. Herre, and lives at New York City; Melvin B., who is a farmer of Henning township, and lives at Vining, is a graduate of the agricultural school at Minneapolis; Charles A., who is cashier of Lund's State Bank, is an attorney and graduate from the St. Paul College of Law; Oscar A., who is a partner in the firm of Nyhus & Lund, general merchants at Vining; Harry A., who lives on the home place near Vining; Andrew T., the subject of this sketch; Emil A., who is a real-estate dealer and land owner of Vining; Gundrun, who married Theodore Thoen, of the firm of Thoen Brothers' Clothing Company, at Minneapolis, Minnesota, and Baletta, who married William H. Huntington, and lives at Paynesville, Minnesota. Four children of Mr. and Mrs. Lund are deceased.

Andrew T. Lund was educated at the Fergus Falls, Minnesota, high school and later at Concordia College, where he graduated in the class of 1908, with the degree of Bachelor of Accounts, and after finishing his schooling he entered the lumber business at Vining, continuing in this business for four years and then he sold his interests and has since followed the real-estate business together with the duties of his office as president of Lund's State Bank, a position in which he succeeded his father. Andrew T. Lund has found time from his busy life to serve his town as recorder since it was incorporated, in the year 1909, and he takes an active part, as owner, in the plotting and in the development of "Sunny Side," a resort on East Battle lake, one mile from Vining. Andrew T. Lund has served several years as president of the local society of Sons of Norway and he is now dommer of that organization.

On June 27, 1915, Andrew T. Lund was married to Alma Korum, who was a school teacher of Otter Tail county, and the daughter of John Korum and wife, old settlers who are now deceased. The Lund family is one of the well-known families of the community, they being strong financial supporters of Concordia College, an institution from which seven of the children of the family have graduated.

Andrew T. Lund and his wife are leading members of the Norwegian Lutheran church at Vining and in church circles as well as the social and business circles of the town and county are esteemed and respected for their part in the life of the community.

JOHN MAURIN.

John Maurin, postmaster, Elizabeth, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, was born on January 4, 1888, in Austria, and is a son of John and Katherine (Schauer) Maurin. His early education was obtained at the public schools in Alten Markt, Austria, and later at the German schools at Cottschee for three years. At the age of fourteen years he came to America, landing at New York, and coming directly to Elizabeth, Minnesota, where he entered the public schools for one year, and later attended St. John's University, in which he took a commercial course, graduating in 1905. After completing his education, Mr. Maurin went to North Dakota, and was employed in the State Bank at Sykeston. From that place he went to Breckenridge, Minnesota, where he clerked in the store of Vertin Brothers for three years, and from that place returned to Elizabeth and worked for his uncle, Peter Maurin, for six years. In 1915 he was appointed postmaster, in connection with which office he conducts a confectionery store. He is special agent for the Pacific Mutual Life Insurance Company of California. Mr. Maurin is a

Democrat and has held some of the local offices, among them being that of assessor, which he held for two years. He is a devout member of the Catholic church, while fraternally he belongs to the Knights of Columbus. Mr. Maurin's brother, Peter, is a sergeant in the Austrian army and served in 1915 at the Russian front, and later at the Italian front. His brother-in-law is also a soldier.

John Maurin, Sr., was born in Austria, as was also his wife, Katherine (Schauer) Maurin. He was well educated in Austria, where he attended the normal school, and later entered the military service, where he was appointed captain of the Seventeenth regiment in the War of 1878, at Bosnia, Herzegovina, during which service he contracted rheumatism. After the war Mr. Maurin conducted an inn at Unterwold, and was also the owner of a farm consisting of one hundred and sixty acres. Religiously, he was a member of the Catholic church. His death occurred on August 17, 1905. To Mr. and Mrs. Maurin were born the following children: Catherine, John, Anna, Peter, Francis, and five others who are dead, John being the only one to come to America.

Marcus Maurin, the paternal grandfather, was a native of Austria, and was a soldier in the Napoleonic War, and was afterward engaged in business in Austria, from which he retired and spent his latter life in travel, visiting Switzerland, France and America, where he sold goods. His children were: Peter, Marcus, Martin, John and Mary, all of whom are dead, Peter and Marcus being the only children who came to America.

John Maurin was united in marriage in 1913 with Susie Hotchkiss, daughter of W. H. Hotchkiss, a farmer. To this union one child has been born, John Peter.

L. D. BARCALOW.

L. D. Barcalow, bank cashier, Elizabeth, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, was born on October 5, 1856, in New Jersey, and is a son of Farrington Barcalow, who moved to New York state with his family in 1876 and bought a farm. He received a good public school education at Jersey City, New Jersey, and followed farming on the home place until the death of his father. In 1893 he came west on account of having a brother in Minneapolis, and engaged his services with Maurin Brothers, of Elizabeth, where he kept books for eighteen years, after which he became cashier of the Elizabeth Bank, in which he now holds considerable stock. Politically, Mr. Barcalow is a strong Republican and has held several local offices, among them being justice of the peace, which office he has held ever since coming to Elizabeth.

Farrington Barcalow was born in New Jersey and was educated at Princeton University, where he studied law, but never followed the profession, entering the lumber business at Somerville, New Jersey. His establishment was one of the largest and most successful of the kind in the country. He was a prominent man in politics, and was a wide-awake citizen in every sense of the word. He was united in marriage with Amanda Dunn, daughter of Lewis Dunn, of Newark, New Jersey. She was born in New Jersey, and became the mother of five children: Frank A., Ellis, Lewis, Rupert and Hubert. After his marriage, Mr. Barcalow engaged in the lumber business, which he followed until 1876, then took up farming until his death, which occurred about 1890. His wife died about 1885. In religion, Mr. Barcalow attended church but was not a member. Mrs. Barcalow was a member of the Baptist church.

William Barcalow, the paternal grandfather, was a native of Somerville, New Jersey. He was a soldier of the Continental army, and after the war ended he engaged as a hotel keeper.

FREDERICK ZILLIOX.

Frederick Zilliox was born on August 23, 1865, near Troutville, Clearfield county, Pennsylvania. His grandparents, Godfrey and Charlotte Zilliox, emigrated from Gersbach, a small settlement three miles from Pirmasens, Rheinisch Bavaria, Germany, in 1837, and settled in Clearfield county, Pennsylvania. The grandparents on his mother's side were George H. and Elizabeth Yoas, and came from the same settlement in Germany. His father was eighteen years old when he came with his parents to the United States.

When Frederick Zilliox was nearly six years old his parents moved to Missouri, locating on a farm near Moundville, Vernon county, where he was brought up on a farm until he was twenty-one years of age. He had long had a desire to go to some college to prepare himself either for office work or for teaching; and in January, 1887, he went to the Gem City Business College, Quincy, Illinois, for a six-months' term, and then went with some of his schoolmates to Denver, Colorado, where he worked at different places for about four months, but as the western civilization did not suit him, he returned home again, and in January, 1890, went back to college to finish the course. While yet at college, Mr. Zilliox was offered and accepted a position as teacher of penmanship and commercial branches in the Braymer high school and business institute for the school year 1890-1891. In the fall of 1891 he accepted a position as commercial teacher in the German-English College, now called the Charles City College, Charles City, Iowa. He remained with this school two years, and then resigned and visited the Col-

unbian Exposition at Chicago. From Chicago he took a trip to Pennsylvania with his fellow teacher and companion, P. P. Rodenberger, going by way of Niagara Falls, where they spent a day. After spending a few weeks at the home of a friend at Limeport, Pennsylvania, Mr. Zilliox went to visit his old home and relatives in Clearfield county. After spending some time among his relatives and roaming over the mountains, he went down to see Philadelphia.

In October, 1893, Mr. Zilliox returned to Charles City, Iowa, and after a short stay there went to Missouri to visit his folks. In January, 1894, he went to the Cedar Rapids Business College, Cedar Rapids, Iowa, to take a special course in penmanship and drawing. This course he completed in June, and in the fall accepted a position with King's Business College, Dallas, Texas. This school proved unsatisfactory to him, and he resigned in the spring. In the fall of 1895 he secured, through the recommendation of Rev. Henry Solum, with whom he roomed at Dallas, a position as head of the commercial department at the Park Region Luther College, Fergus Falls, Minnesota, which position he still holds.

On his way north from Texas, Frederick Zilliox stopped at home and visited with his folks a short time, and then went to Charles City, Iowa, where he was married on September 12, 1895, to Anna Louise Luckow, whose acquaintance he had formed while teaching at that place in 1891-93. The wedding took place in the Lutheran church. Shortly after the wedding they came to Fergus Falls, Minnesota, where they have lived ever since.

CECIL BEARDS.

Cecil Beards, a prosperous young farmer of Inman township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, is a native of Buckingham, Kent county, England, where he was born on August 8, 1885.

Mr. Beards is a son of John and Emma (Hicks) Beards, both of whom were natives of England. John Beards was born in the village of Tiptree, Essex county, August 1, 1849, and his wife was born on May 5, 1849. They were married in their native land and in May, 1890, emigrated to Canada, and after remaining in Canada for six weeks they moved to St. Paul, Minnesota, where they have since resided. John Beards is a mechanic by trade. In 1911 he purchased a farm in section 3, of Inman township, Otter Tail county, upon which his son, Cecil, now lives. John Beards and his wife are devout members of the Congregational church. They are the parents of five children, of whom Archie and Emily (twins) are deceased. The living children are Emma, Clara and Cecil.

Cecil Beards received his education in the schools of St. Paul, Minne-

sota. He is a mechanic by trade and worked at this trade until 1907, when he removed to Inman township. He later spent some time in North and South Dakota, working on various farms and at his trade. In 1910 he settled on the farm in Inman township, and has leased it from the time it was purchased by his father. Since removing to the farm Mr. Beards has been engaged in general farming and stock raising.

In 1910 Cecil Beards was married to Mary Klawitter, who was born in Douglass county, Minnesota, and who is a daughter of James Paulson, who is a native of Norway. The latter emigrated to America many years ago and settled in Minnesota. Cecil Beards and wife are the parents of one daughter, Bernardette Emeline, who was born on September 23, 1911.

PHILIP SCOTT IRELAND.

Philip Scott Ireland was born on April 3, 1841, in Govan, Scotland, now a part of Glasgow. His father, James, also a native of Govan, Scotland, was the son of Andrew and Elizabeth (Land) Ireland, the former of whom was born at Ardy, ten miles from Glasgow, and was a merchant, keeping the "Society Store" for twenty years. His wife was also a native of Govan. On the maternal side of the family, Philip and Jane (Weather- spoon) Scott were the grandparents, he being a native of Govan, and she of England. Of their seven children, six were daughters. Their only son, James, took part in the battle of Waterloo, and was there wounded in the head.

James Ireland, father of Philip S., was a merchant and railroadman, and his death occurred in Scotland when his son, Philip, was about eight years of age. His widow survived him many years, passing away in 1903. They were the parents of seven children, as follows: Margaret, Jeanette, Elizabeth, James, Philip and Andrew (both deceased), and Philip Scott, the subject of this review. All are now deceased except the last named.

Philip Ireland was educated in the schools of his native land, and in 1858 came to America alone, going directly to the family of his grandfather Scott, who lived in Canada. His aunt had sent him the money with which to pay for the journey. For two years he worked for his uncle for four dollars a month, and the third year worked at farm labor for other parties. After spending six years working in the pine woods of Canada, he obtained employment in a woolen mill at Axbridge, Massachusetts, which is located about sixteen miles from Wooster. Having learned the weaver's trade in Scotland, it was not difficult for him to take up the details of his new occupation. In 1871 he traveled west as far as Minnesota with two companions, their destination being this county. There was at that time no survey, and as necessity is the mother of invention, they

evolved a unique plan in order to determine the choice of the farms they were about to pre-empt. They first marked off by guess the limits of three claims, which they numbered, putting the numbers on bits of paper. They then placed these in a hat and drew numbers. The present farm of Mr. Ireland is the one which fell to him in the drawing. When this party first arrived in Eastern township the only settlers there were found to be John Tanglen and Frank Saunders. Subsequently to this apportionment, Mr. Ireland proved up on a quarter section of his land and later added to it forty acres of railroad land, all of which he has greatly improved.

Mr. Ireland's marriage to Margaret Crechton occurred in Massachusetts in 1867, she being a native of England, and a daughter of Andrew and Mary (Smith) Crechton. Andrew Crechton was a designer by trade and was born in England and died in Glasgow, his death occurring during an epidemic of cholera which caused the death of many others at that time. His wife was born at Corders, Scotland, and came with her daughter, later Mrs. Ireland, and a son, to America, in 1866. They traveled first to Woonsocket, Rhode Island, in order to join a sister of Mrs. Ireland. Another son of Mrs. Crechton, named James, served in the Civil War, through which he passed uninjured.

Mr. and Mrs. Ireland are the parents of eight children, Mary, James, Lillian, Jean, Elizabeth and Margaret, Andrew and Lillian Isabell, the latter two are dead. Mr. Ireland has the honor of being the first chairman of Eastern township. He always prided himself upon being able to succeed by his own efforts. He has thus developed a spirit of independence which characterizes the best types of American citizenship.

HARRISON HARRIS.

A Canadian by birth, Harrison Harris, however, became so identified with this county that its local history could not be written without reference to his life and valued work. His wife was the first white woman to take up her residence in Pelican Rapids. He was born in Ontario, Canada, in 1825, and died in Pelican Rapids, June 23, 1882. His first marriage was in Canada, the bride being a Miss Dearborn. He brought her to the United States in 1860 and located in Wisconsin, where she afterward died, leaving three children, Frederick, Awlso and Minnie, the latter is deceased. While living in Wisconsin Mr. Harris was a successful farmer.

In 1866 Harrison Harris was married at Otsego, Wisconsin, his second wife being Helen Grace Councilman, who was born in Brown county, New York, August 24, 1847. Mrs. Harris is the daughter of Jacob and Sarah Councilman, natives of the county in which their daughter was born.

In 1854 the parents of Mrs. Harris began a two-years residence in Belvidere, Illinois. They left there for Wisconsin, where they lived at Turtle for thirteen years. The next ten years was spent in Columbus. Mr. Councilman, who was a farmer, and his wife moved to Pelican Rapids about 1880, when the former retired from active life and where he and his wife lived until their death. Both are buried here.

After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Harris lived for two years at Otsego, and the following year they resided in Iowa. They then lived in Red Wing, Minnesota, until the autumn of 1869 Harrison Harris and Emerson Harris left their families in the fall of 1869 at Dayton Crossing and came to what is now Pelican Rapids, and took land and during the winter of 1869-70 built log shanties and in the spring of 1870 brought their families here. They traveled in a covered wagon, draw by an ox-team. Later, however, by a dishonest transaction, Mr. Harris was cheated out of the original claim and was forced to take up a homestead on an adjoining claim, but both of these tracts of land are now incorporated in Pelican Rapids. Mr. Harris improved his second claim and was for some time a successful farmer. There he lived to the time of his death and this was the home of his wife until her death on June 10, 1915. It was Mr. Harris who, together with George B. Wright and W. G. Tuttle, platted the town of Pelican Rapids. About this time Mr. Harris was manager of the store owned by Mr. Tuttle and in this capacity carried on trade with the neighboring Indians. One of the offices which he held was that of township supervisor. Besides his homestead, Mr. Harris owned forty acres, three or four miles distant.

Some interesting pioneer history is connected with the early life of Mr. Harris. One incident was the journey to New London, which was made by means of an ox-team, and which required three weeks. At that time the land offices were situated at St. Cloud and supplies had to be obtained in Sauk Center, Alexandria and St. Cloud. While the Indians were disposed to be friendly, there were several occasions on which they were the sources of annoyance and terror. They even came to Mr. Harris's home and remained there days at a time. The first house of Mr. and Mrs. Harris was a log cabin in which dirt was used for the floor. Crude as this dwelling was, however, it furnished welcome shelter for the villagers who frequently gathered there when the Indians became troublesome. Mr. Harris seemed to be looked upon as the leader of the defense. In the course of his life Mr. Harris built three log houses, and was constructing a large house which still stands at the corner of Broadway and North streets, when he was called away by death.

By his second marriage Mr. Harris became the father of three children,

Wilson N., a daughter who died in infancy, and Ernest Edwin, also deceased. Wilson N. Harris was educated in the schools of Pelican Rapids and afterward worked on a farm. He now looks after the property left by his father. About twenty-five acres of the original quarter section homesteaded by Mr. Harris is now a part of the village. The tract composing the eighty acres on the west has been sold. About fifty-one acres of the homestead besides the town lots are still in the possession of the family. Wilson Harris has for the past ten years been engaged in the plumbing business. For five years he has been the village assessor. He is a member of the Rothsay Odd Fellows Lodge No. 36. His mother was a member of the Methodist Episcopal church.

A glance at the boyhood of Harrison Harris will convince the reader that his was not the nature to play today and trust to luck for tomorrow's golden crop. The strong characteristics which he evinced in manhood were present in his youth, and these he made the basis of a successful career. Mr. Harris was the sort of man who could be depended upon in emergencies and during his lifetime was a leading citizen of his community.

H. A. SCHULTZ.

Enterprise, energy, good judgment and knowledge of men are the factors that enter largely into the career of the successful business man. Strict adherence to business and a thorough knowledge of his vocation are important adjuncts to a successful career. Nowhere do we find greater need for strict adherence to duty than in the general mercantile business. It is no easy task to purchase and keep for sale the many and varied articles, the public expect to find in the general store of today. In H. A. Schultz we find the successful and enterprising business man who conducts an up-to-date general store at Otter Tail, Minnesota.

H. A. Schultz, a native of Goodhue county, Minnesota, was born on June 29, 1867, the son of Ferdinand and Justine (Fisher) Schultz, who were natives of Germany. The father being born on January 11, 1824, and the mother on October 31, 1830. Ferdinand Schultz was educated in the common schools of Germany. After his marriage he and his wife came to America, landing in New York in 1855. They went at once to Wisconsin and lived for a time at Princeton, later purchasing eighty acres in Goodhue county, Minnesota, where Mr. Schultz made his home until the time of his death in March, 1894. Mrs. Schultz, after the death of her husband, moved to Otter Tail city where she still resides and is an active member in the German Lutheran church at that place. Mr. Schultz was also an active member of the church and a staunch Republican, but never had aspirations for public office.

H. A. Schultz received his education in the common schools of Good-

the county, where he grew to manhood. On April 14, 1891, he was united in marriage to Lenora Gray, of Wabasha county, Minnesota. Mrs. Schultz was born on April 19, 1877. They are the parents of the following children, Leona, Alice, Elvin and Albert. After the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Schultz, they removed to Otter Tail county where they purchased a farm of one hundred and seventy-six acres. In 1903 the farm was sold and the family moved to Ottertail, where Mr. Schultz engaged in the mercantile business. He has been more than successful and the business has increased greatly. Mr. Schultz has been the postmaster at Ottertail since the fall of 1903 and has had charge of the switchboard for seven years for the Farmers Telephone Company at Ottertail. He has been president of the Farmers Creamery Company for four years, also president of the Cornet band for nine years. Mr. and Mrs. Schultz are very active members of the Lutheran church of Ottertail and are prominent socially.

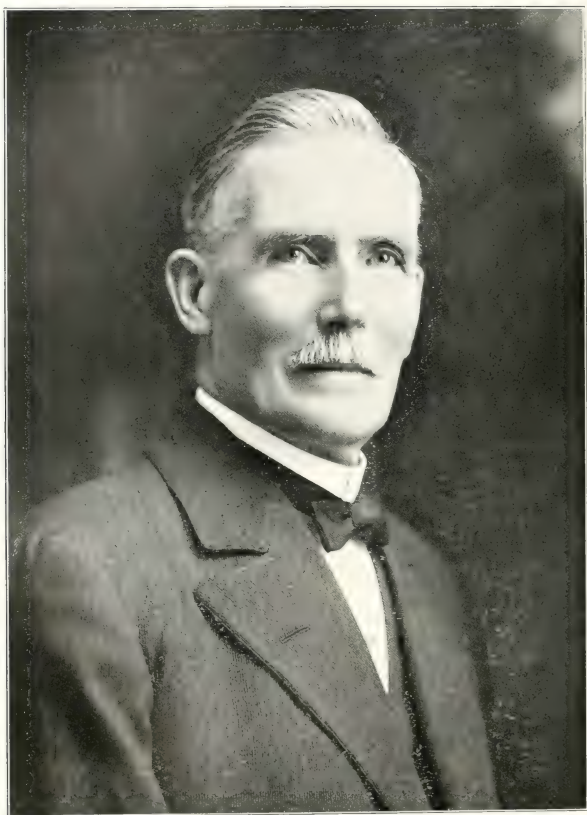
AUGUST ALBERTS.

August Alberts, well-known farmer and prominent citizen of Otto township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, was born in Germany, December 26, 1870, the son of Christian and Catherine (Horn) Alberts, both natives of Germany, the former born in the year 1823, and the latter in 1840. Christian Alberts and his family came to America in April, 1871, and located at Red Wing, Minnesota, where they lived for some time and then went to Goodhue county. After farming for some time on a farm of eighty acres in Goodhue county, Christian Alberts moved to Polk county, where he lived until 1878 and then came to Otter Tail county and bought one hundred and sixty acres of land in section 6, Otto township, a place which the elder Alberts improved and where he lived until his death in 1890.

August Alberts, the only child of Christian and Catherine Alberts, came to America with his parents when four months of age and after his school days in the schools of the community, he became a farmer, acquiring land until now he cultivates two hundred and sixty acres, together with the raising of considerable live stock.

On February 11, 1896, August Alberts was married to Meta Mattfield, who was born in Germany, on September 12, 1876, the daughter of Henry and Anna (Oelrich) Mattfield, natives of Germany, who came to America in 1869, and located in Gorman township, Otter Tail county, where Henry Mattfield was a farmer until 1913, when he moved to Frazee, Minnesota, and now lives a retired life. August and Meta Alberts are the parents of two children: Arthur, who was born on May 20, 1898, and Alfred, born May 20, 1901.

August Alberts has taken an important part in the public life and the



JUDGE ERICK FRANKBERG

official circles of Otto township, he being a man who is found in the front ranks of all movements for general welfare and community interests, as well as being a citizen who has served well as clerk of the school board for a period of ten years.

HON. ERICK FRANKBERG.

The life of Judge Erick Frankberg, of Fergus Falls, Minnesota, is the story of an ambitious Swedish boy who by hard working and native intelligence has made for himself an honorable place in the hearts of the people with whom he has lived for thirty-five years.

Judge Erick Frankberg was born in Sweden, August 9, 1850. His parents, Andrew and Britta Berg, were both natives of Sweden. The childhood days of Erick Frankberg were spent in school in his native land, he having attended the public schools until he was thirteen years of age and after that time having spent two years in higher schools and later having also attended a military school. He also, while in Sweden and while a young man, learned the carpenters' and builders' trade. Judge Frankberg came to the United States from Sweden in May, 1870, and arrived at Chicago, where on June 12, 1870, he turned his attention to the contracting and building trade, he being associated there with his brother. On October 9, 1871, came the terrible Chicago fire and Mr. Frankberg lost considerable in this fire. After the fire he worked at his trade and was successful. During the winter of 1872 Erick Frankberg went to a private school where he learned the English language and the business customs of this country and he then again returned to the trade of building and contracting until the year 1880, a part of the time in Chicago and a part of the time in Pierce county, Wisconsin. He also at odd times studied law.

On October 2, 1880, Mr. Frankberg arrived in Fergus Falls, Minnesota, where he immediately began to work at the contracting and building trade. He had charge of the erection of the school house in the city of Fergus Falls which was destroyed by fire in 1877. In 1884 he turned his attention to real estate and was engaged in this business for about a year, when he was appointed to fill out an unexpired term as city justice. He was then elected to the same office and held it continuously for twelve years.

In November, 1896, Mr. Frankberg was elected probate judge of Otter Tail county, Minnesota. This was almost twenty years ago. It is fair proof of his learning, his impartiality and fair-mindedness as a judge that he has held the office of probate judge of this large county for now almost twenty years. The people of Otter Tail county have implicit confidence in both his

ability and his fairmindedness. His special fitness for this office is admitted by all persons who have ever had dealings there.

Two years before coming to Otter Tail county, on November 24, 1878, Erick Frankberg was married to Louise Johnson, of Pepin county, Wisconsin. Mrs. Frankberg was also born in Sweden, October 23, 1856, and came to America when she was twelve years of age. Two sons were born to this union. Albert P. Frankberg, who was born on February 4, 1881, and who is now clerk of the probate court of Otter Tail county. He was married to Caroline Sjolie, of this county, and they have one child, Ethel Georgia. George W. Frankberg, who was born on December 20, 1882, and who is now a practising attorney in Fergus Falls, Minnesota. The sketch of his life will be found elsewhere in this volume. Mrs. Louise Frankberg died on September 30, 1904, and Judge Frankberg was married, secondly, to Louise Sjoberg, on May 29, 1907, and to them has been born one son, Raymond C., who was born on September 23, 1908.

Judge Frankberg is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, having joined this lodge nearly forty years ago, December 25, 1876. He is also a member of the Elks lodge of Fergus Falls and the Chippewa Club. He was a member of the school board of the city of Fergus Falls from 1903 to 1915, when he voluntarily retired. He takes a deep interest in all public matters and can always be depended upon to do his share towards the upbuilding of his home city and his home county.

JORGEN JENSEN.

The late Jorgen Jensen, who was a prosperous farmer of Sverdrup township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, was a native of Denmark, where his birth occurred on June 25, 1838. Mr. Jensen was a successful farmer and an enterprising citizen. He was a son of Jens Jorgen, who spent his entire life in Denmark, never coming to this country.

Jorgen Jensen was educated in the public schools of Denmark, and after coming to America, located on the farm where his widow now lives in 1882. He purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land and died on the farm which he had carved out of the wilderness in 1890.

By his marriage to Marie Hansen two children were born to Jorgen Jensen—Soren and Marie. The mother of these children died in 1882, and the following year Mr. Jensen was married to Johanna Hansen, a sister of his first wife, and to this union two children were born, Jens, Jr., and Carrie. Of these children, Jens was born in 1884, and received his education in the public schools, and is now engaged in the real estate business at Henning, Minnesota. Carrie was born in Otter Tail county, Minnesota, on February 1, 1887, and was educated in the public schools and also in

the normal school at Moorhead. She taught in the public schools for some time, and on September 25, 1910, was married to Willie Jensen, of Tordenskjold township, and to this union have been born three children, Rudolph, Erwin and Evelyn.

The late Jorgen Jensen was never active in politics, but voted independently and supported measures and men rather than parties and party emblems. He was a faithful and earnest member of the Lutheran church and was a regular attendant of religious services. His widow and family are also members of the same denomination.

BERNHARD MATTSON.

Bernhard Mattson, a well-known and popular young farmer of Dane Prairie township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, is a native of the township where he lives and was born on January 5, 1874. Mr. Mattson is the son of Peter and Anna (Arneson) Mattson, the former of whom was born on November 3, 1820, in Sweden, and the latter was born on March 6, 1842, in Norway. They came to America before their marriage, the father in 1865 and the mother in 1867. They were married in Minneapolis, although the father, for a time, had lived in Milwaukee. Mrs. Peter Mattson had come directly to Minneapolis after her arrival in this country. In 1869 they moved to Otter Tail county and homesteaded one hundred and seventy-six acres of land in Dane Prairie township, which was, at that time, a wilderness. Here he built a log house east of his present home and began clearing the home place.

In the summer of 1870, Peter Mattson returned to Minneapolis and worked in a saw-mill, but in the fall came back again and that winter engaged in clearing his land. Later he sold forty-seven acres, but kept the remainder of the farm until his death in 1900, when he was eighty years old. He was an ardent Republican and a member of the Swan Lake Lutheran church, of which he was a founder. He is buried in the cemetery near that church. His widow is still living and has been a devout church worker all of her life. They were the parents of seven children: Matilda, who is unmarried and lives at home; Amelia, who died in 1900; Bernhard, the subject of this sketch; Pauline, who is unmarried and lives at home; August, who was a farmer near Ryder, North Dakota, until 1915, is now employed in an elevator; Albert, who died in infancy in 1880, and Albert, who is a carpenter of Fergus Falls.

Bernhard Mattson was educated in the common schools of this county and at the Fergus Falls high school, as well as the Park Region Lutheran College and at the United Church Seminary. After completing his education, Mr. Mattson returned to the farm and assisted his father in its

management until his death. Since that time, he has been operating the farm alone.

Mr. Mattson is unmarried. He is a member of the Swan Lake Lutheran church and is independent in politics. He served one year as assessor and has served as clerk of Dane Prairie township since 1908. He has given to the people of this township a most creditable administration and today enjoys the confidence and esteem of a host of friends.

ANTON CHRISTIANSON.

One of the most widely and favorably known citizens of Otter Tail county and of the town of Vining, is Anton Christianson, who as a man affiliated with some of the important business enterprises and as the occupant of various public offices, together with the fulfilling of a prominent place in the ranks of common citizenship, has long been recognized as a conspicuous element in local circles.

Anton Christianson was born in Bendalen, Nordland, Norway, on March 5, 1863, the son of Christian Olson and Gunhild Anderson, both of whom were natives of Norway, the father being born in Gudbrandsdalen, during the year 1827, and the mother born in Valdres, during the year 1826. Christian and Gunhild Olson were married in the district of Bendalen and about the year 1870 they moved to Folden in the district of Namdalen, where they lived until the year 1883, on a farm owned by Christian Olson, after which Christian Olson provided for his wife in Norway, and came to America, settling in section 23, of Nidoras township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, where he bought eighty acres of railroad land, which he improved and on which he built necessary buildings and then, in the year 1884, sent for his family, who were in their native land. On this farm Christian Olson lived until his death in the year 1909, he being eighty-two years of age at that time. His wife, Gunhild Olson, preceded her husband in death about ten years. Christian Olson was one of Nidaros county's best citizens, a man who, though of a quiet and retiring disposition, none the less filled his place in life well and in such a manner that his memory is today revered as one of those men who did no small part in the development and promotion of the county and its interests. Mr. Olson and his good wife were faithful members of the West Nidaros Lutheran church. The remains of Christian and Gunhild Olson were laid to rest in the town cemetery of Vining. To the marriage of Christian Olson and Gunhild Anderson were born the following children: Iver, a sailor, who was drowned at sea when twenty-four years of age; Anton, the subject of this sketch, who has a half brother, Halvorson, who now lives two miles south-

east of Vining, where he is the owner of one hundred and twenty acres of land, which he cultivates.

Anton Christianson was educated in the public schools of Norway, after which he worked on the home farm for a time and then became a sailor, cruising along the northern coast of Norway, on various fishing vessels, until the year 1884, when being twenty-one years of age, he came to America and helped his father on the farm, which he had established in Nidaros township, Otter Tail county, and then, in the year 1887, Anton Christianson bought a farm of eighty acres in section 5, Folden township, where he lived for ten years, during which time he cleared his land and placed thereon many improvements, making the farm one of the modern and convenient places for the following of agricultural pursuits in the locality. Later Anton Christianson sold his farm to the firm of Nyhus & Lund, of Vining, and returned to the farm of his father where he farmed until the death of Christian Olson and then Anton Christianson purchased the interest of the heirs to his father's estate and secured the home farm, on which he lived until the year 1914, having in the meantime added to the home place forty acres of land located nearby. During the year 1914, Anton Christianson invested in seven acres of land, a part of which was within the town limits of Vining, and here erected a good house and barn, a place where he now lives.

On December 9, 1908, Anton Christianson was appointed United States rural mail carrier for route No. 2, now No. 1, which operates from the town of Vining, a position which he now occupies, giving to his patrons prompt and efficient service at all times. While engaged in the mail service, Anton Christianson has found time to care for other business interests, among which is the office of a director with the Rural Telephone Company, a corporation in the conduct of whose affairs he has taken an important and valuable part.

During the year 1887, Anton Christianson was married to Mala H. Spjten, who was born in Norway, and who died in the year 1896, being the mother of the following children, who with her husband, survived: Gina, who died at the age of two years; Herbert, of the home farm, who married Clara Sandal, and to whom were born, Myrtle, aged two years, and Ethel, aged seven months; Conrad, who lives in the state of North Dakota; Mable, who died at the age of six months, and Malfred.

On October 21, 1897, Anton Christianson, was married, secondly, to Caroline Rosenlund, who was born in Denmark and when seven years of age came to America, with her parents. To the marriage of Anton and Caroline Christianson were born the following children: Jennie, Mabel, Melvin, Harry, George, Annie, Clifford and Adeline.

Anton Christianson has been the occupant of several important offices in the township, among which was that of clerk of the school district, director of the affairs of the school district, and road overseer. Mr. Christianson has taken a leading part in the work and worship of the Norwegian Lutheran church, at Vining, giving of his time and interest to the teaching of a Sunday-school class and to the other activities of the congregation. Anton Christianson is affiliated with the society of the Sons of Norway and has been active in the conduct of the affairs of this organization.

JACOB THOMPSON.

Although the immediate subject of this sketch has passed from the land of the living, he is still remembered by friends and neighbors near his home in Tordenskjold township, where his widow still resides. He was a man of kindly nature, who easily made friends, and was possessed of such integrity and industry as won for him the respect of all who knew him. By his labors he made for his family a comfortable home, practically hewing it out of the wilderness.

Jacob Thompson was born in Larwick, Norway, and when a boy of sixteen years, ran away to sea. He was on the sea during the years of the Civil War of this country and was on a vessel captured by the Confederates and held a prisoner for some time. Upon his release, after the close of the war, he came to Minnesota and settled in Otter Tail county, homesteading a tract of one hundred and sixty acres in Tordenskjold township. He later purchased twelve additional acres and was possessed of one hundred and seventy-two acres at the time of his death, which occurred on June 3, 1890. His land was all covered with forest when he obtained it and he cleared it all and made other great improvements, the house which he originally built still standing.

On August 6, 1871, Jacob Thompson was united in marriage with Martha Torstenson, who was born in Norway, June 24, 1847, a daughter of Torsten and Mallena Torstenson. The family came to America in 1860 and located in Otter Tail county, where they lived for a great many years. To Jacob Thompson and wife were born five children. Thom, the eldest, lives in Underwood, where he is a drayman; Matilda is the wife of William Mags of Sauk Center, this state; Annetta married Andrew Olson and lives in Fergus Falls; Theo is Mrs. John Lindeblo, of Raymon, Montana, and Julius, the youngest of the family, follows the trade of blacksmith and makes his home with his mother. Both Jacob Thompson and his wife were members of the Lutheran church and were active in the early years of that faith in this vicinity, as she still is. He was an excellent man and left to his children that richest of all heritages—a good name.

JOHN G. NELSON.

It may be truthfully said that Otter Tail county has no citizen of whom she has more reason to be proud than John G. Nelson, who carries with him the distinction, now left to few men, of having served in the Federal army during the Civil War. The example furnished by his life is not only an enviable one, but of inspiring character. His influence during an eminently industrious life has made for the prosperity of the community whose business interests he has ever held close to his heart. John G. Nelson, who is known throughout the county in which he lives as Senator Nelson, was born on the 16th of March, 1844, in Fureby, Sweden, and is the sixth in order of birth of the children of N. D. Anderson and Martha Johnson, both of whom were born in Sweden between the years 1807 and 1808. The father of the subject of this sketch, who followed the occupation of a farmer in his native land, came to this country in 1854, bringing with him his wife and their seven children, one of the sons having died in Sweden before the family set sail. Upon arriving in this country the family located in Chiscago county, Minnesota, where the father bought two hundred acres of land for farming purposes, and where he lived until his death, which occurred in September, 1869. Two of the daughters, Helena and Charlotta, died in 1855, aged seventeen and nineteen years respectively. Two other daughters, Christina and Josephine, married and lived in Chiscago county. Christina died in 1896. After the death of her husband, Mrs. Nelson, mother of John G. Nelson, the subject of this sketch, came to Otter Tail county and lived the remainder of her life with her three sons, Anders P., John G. and Peter O., dying in 1889.

The early education received by John G. Nelson was obtained in the common schools of his native land and in the schools of Chiscago county, Minnesota. As a young man he worked on his father's farm and also at the lumber business whose interests carried him regularly on trips down the St. Croix river.

On August 15, 1862, the subject of this sketch unhesitatingly laid aside his business duties and offered his services to save the government, which at that time was in great danger. He enlisted in Company C. Seventh Regiment, Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, and during the first four months of service was assigned to Ft. Ripley to guard against attacks by the Chippewa Indians at that point. The government man agreeable settlement at the Chippewa agency with the Indians and Hole-in-the-Day, their chief, after leaving Ft. Ripley, the regiment went to Ft. Snelling and then to Mankato, Minnesota, where the company guarded a number of Sioux Indian prisoners. During the months spent in this locality John G. Nelson had some of the most thrilling experiences of the war. During Christmas

day and the day following the subject of this sketch was on duty for forty-eight hours, on account of trouble with thirty-eight of the Indians who were sentenced to be hanged on the 26th of December. The company had charge of building the scaffold where all of the thirty-eight Indians were put to death at the same time on that date. After the hanging had taken place the regiment guarded the remaining Indians until May of the following year when they took the prisoners by boat from Mankato to Davenport, Iowa, where they were stockaded in charge of Major Anderson. After the return of the company to Mankato they with the balance of the regiment started on what is known in history as the Indian Expedition of 1863, under General Sibley. They marched first to a point about forty miles southeast of Devils Lake, N. D., where they camped. From this camp a detail of two companies of infantry, one company of cavalry, and two field pieces went to Devils lake, where they expected to meet in battle Indians who were reported to be there. In the meantime the main part of the regiment proceeded on to the Missouri river where they fought the battle of Big Mound on July 24. Mr. Nelson was with the detail sent to Devils lake. On their arrival there, only the son of Little Crow was found, and the detail returned to the camp, where they were rejoined by the regiment, and camp was broken for the long march back to Ft. Snelling.

They remained at the fort only a short time before leaving for St. Louis, Missouri, where they remained until spring. Upon leaving the West the regiment went to Paducah, Kentucky, where they were in camp three weeks and then attached to the Sixteenth Army Corps, at that time in command of Gen. A. J. Smith. The next march was to Memphis, Tennessee, and from there to Tupelo, Mississippi, where the regiment fought in the battle of Tupelo, in which General Forrest, the until-then unconquered Confederate general, was decisively defeated in a battle hard fought and lasting three days. They then returned to Memphis for a few days and took part in the Oxford raid. After the Oxford raid, Smith's army started on what is known as Price's raid through Missouri and Arkansas. The army struck the Mississippi river at Cape Girardeau. From there transports were taken to St. Louis. This was in the latter part of November. From St. Louis the army went to Nashville, Tennessee, arriving there on the 1st of December, and there joined General Thomas in the defense of Nashville against General Hood. On the 15th day of December, 1864, General Thomas made the attack which lasted two days, General Hood being defeated both days. The Southern army under Hood was completely defeated and this was the turning point in the Western campaign. After this battle they marched to East Port, Mississippi, where they camped for two months. At the end of that time they left for Vicksburg and from there by boat to

New Orleans. Here on Andrew Jackson's old battle ground they camped for two weeks. They spent two weeks on Dauphine Island, to which place they had been transported, and at the end of that time went to Fish River, Alabama.

Mr. Nelson had part in the siege of Spanish Fort, Alabama, which lasted two weeks. After the siege the army marched to Blakely where they defeated a Confederate force in what was the last battle of the Civil War, being fought several days after the surrender of Lee to Grant at Appomattox. From there they marched to Montgomery, Alabama, remaining there two weeks, and then to Selma where they stayed two months. While at Selma, the order was received by the Seventh Minnesota to return home. The return trip was by rail to Jackson, Mississippi, from where they marched to Vicksburg, and from there to Ft. Snelling the transportation was by boat. During all these perilous engagements, John G. Nelson escaped without injury, and remained with the regiment from the time they fired the first shot until he received his discharge in August, 1865. In the battle of Spanish Fort, Mr. Nelson, who was with his company on the skirmish line when the fort opened fire, stepped behind a large tree from which place he began to return their shots. The fire of the fort so filled the air and swept the ground that when the company was relieved there was nothing left of the protecting tree but a ten foot snag. Mr. Nelson looks upon this incident as one of the most dangerous in his career as a soldier.

After the war the subject of this sketch returned to Chisago county, Minnesota, where for a time he was interested in farming and in the lumber business. In the summer of 1868, he came to Otter Tail county, and located on the place where he now resides in Parkers Prairie township. The farm is located in section 17, and since the time of its purchase has been extended over an area of two hundred and fifteen acres. The place in its original state was a tract of wilderness, and the owner is the only pioneer of that section now living, who had part in the development of the community at that time.

On the 23rd of August, 1862, John G. Nelson was united in marriage to Caroline Lindquist, and to this union one son, Ernest P., was born on the 26th of August, 1863, who met his death on May 18, 1910, in an explosion from a gas engine in Carmangay, Alberta, Canada, where he had charge of a range of elevators. He was survived by his wife, Stella (DeMars) Nelson, and two children, Elise and Ernestine. The second marriage of the subject of this sketch took place when he was united to Alma M. Carlson, who became the mother of one son, Daniel E., who was born on the 15th day of July, 1904, just forty years after his father fired the first shot at the battle of Tupelo.

While the career of John G. Nelson as a soldier has been a notable one, it is probably as a politician and a member of the Republican party, that he has received his greatest distinction. In 1872 he was elected senator, and is known throughout the state in which he lives as the "first senator of Otter Tail county." He served in two sessions as senator, and in 1882 received additional honors by being chosen to serve as representative. He has held various offices of public trust in the township, and from 1871 to 1872 served as county commissioner. Senator Nelson is a man who stands out as a member of the "old school" and in his various activities has left an indelible influence upon those whose lives have been touched by his.

GUNERIUS LARSON.

Gunerius Larson, who is a prosperous farmer of Sverdrup township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, and who owns a farm, maintained in a very high state of repair and cultivation, was born on July 24, 1868, in Norway.

Gunerius Larson is a son of Lars Sogge and Karen (Lesseth) Larson, both of whom were also natives of Norway, the former born in 1830, and the latter on May 26, 1836. In 1881 Mr. Larson's parents came to Fergus Falls, Minnesota, where the father worked at his trade as a carpenter. He owned some eighty acres of school land for a time, but lived in Fergus Falls for about two years, after which he located in Sverdrup township, and spent his last days at Red Lake Falls, Minnesota. His death occurred in 1897 at the latter place, while his wife passed away at Rainer, Oregon, in 1911. They were the parents of seven children, as follow: Anna, Hans Theodore, Gunerius, Ludwig, Julia, Inga and Helmer, all of whom are living.

Gunerius Larson received a liberal education in the public schools of his native country, and in 1885, came to America, locating in Otter Tail county, Minnesota. In 1892 he purchased the farm where he now lives. This farm is located in Sverdrup township, and here Mr. Larson carries on a general system of farming and stock raising with a very commendable degree of success.

On November 3, 1892, Gunerius Larson was married to Hausine Johnson, who was born on July 9, 1876, in Calumet, Michigan, and who is a daughter of Hans and Gunhild (Svenson) Johnson, both of whom were born in Norway. Mrs. Larson's father was born on June 26, 1844, and her mother on January 13, 1852. Hans Johnson and wife came from their native land to the United States in the early seventies, settling at Calumet, where he died in the spring of 1876, while his wife survived him several years, passing away in 1881. Previous to this, in 1880, Mrs. Larson's mother had come to Otter Tail county, Minnesota, where her parents,

Svend Jacobson and Anna (Peterson) Jacobson, both of whom were also natives of Norway, had located in an early day, and were pioneers of Tordenskjold township. Svend Jacobson died here in 1902, and his wife in 1893. They were the parents of one child, who was Mrs. Larson's mother. Mrs. Larson was one of three children born to her parents, the others being Anna and Hannah, the latter of whom is deceased. Mrs. Larson's maternal grandparents came from Norway to Calumet county, Michigan, in 1865, and to Otter Tail county in 1871.

Gunerius Larson and wife are the parents of eight children, one of whom, Dagny, is deceased. The living children in the order of their birth are as follow: Gladys, Lillian, Stella, Roy, Mildred, Doris and Alpha.

Mr. and Mrs. Larson are faithful and earnest members of the Lutheran church, and take an active interest in religious work. They are highly respected citizens of Sverdrup township.

HON. ORRIS ALBERTSON.

Among the oldest citizens of Battle Lake, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, and among the most prominent citizens of the county, is the Hon. Orris Albertson, former sheriff of Otter Tail county, who has been engaged in many lines of endeavor and who, for many years, was engaged in the mercantile business at Battle Lake.

Orris Albertson was born in Jefferson county, New York, near Theresa, January 5, 1850, and is the son of Josiah and Rhoda (Riggins) Albertson, both of whom were natives of New Jersey. Mr. Albertson's father was born on March 29, 1809, and his mother on May 6, 1813. The former was a glass-blower, who moved to Jefferson county, New York, but who, before that, lived in Oneida county, at Sand Lake, where he followed his trade. From Oneida he moved to Redwood, Jefferson county, where he also followed his trade. Subsequently, however, he bought a farm near Theresa and later another farm near the first farm. Both he and his wife died in that county. He was a Republican in politics and voted for Abraham Lincoln. He and his wife were members of the Methodist church. They were the parents of nine children, of whom, Samuel, Josiah, Mary, William and Emma, are deceased. The living children are Margaret, Orris, Sarah and Lewis.

Orris Albertson was educated in the public schools of Redwood, Jefferson county, New York, and, until he was nineteen years old, worked on a farm. In 1869 he immigrated to Battle Lake, having a sister at this place, who was Mrs. Benjamin Sherman. She took one of the first homesteads in Everts township. After coming to Everts township, Mr. Albertson attended school here. For a short time, he left the county, but returned in 1872 and was employed as a clerk by Johnson & Jackson at Otter Tail city. After

working for them a short time, Mr. Albertson was employed in a drug store, after which he made his home with his brother, Josiah H. Albertson, in Everts township.

In the fall of 1873, Mr. Albertson was married to Mrs. Roseltha Corliss, whose maiden name was Gould, and who was born in Utica, New York, the daughter of George and Eleanor Gould, who immigrated to Wisconsin, where they homesteaded a farm and later to the southern part of Minnesota. In 1868 they came to Everts township and took a homestead, where both died. Mrs. Albertson also had a homestead and her husband, Orris Albertson, also took a homestead adjoining that of his wife. He now owns three hundred and twenty acres of land in Clitherall township on the site of the old Mormon settlement. Mr. and Mrs. Albertson lived on this farm for some years and finally established a store on the farm in 1876. Five years later, they moved the stock to Battle Lake and established it in a building which Mr. Albertson erected. He had the honor to purchase the first lot in Battle Lake and helped to make the survey of the village. Mr. Albertson was engaged in the mercantile business at Battle Lake until 1898, when he sold out and engaged in the manufacture of butter. He erected a building for that purpose and continued in the manufacture of butter for four years. Later the building was converted into a summer hotel, which he recently sold. He then built a residence on the shores of Battle Lake, where he now lives.

Mrs. Albertson had one child by her first marriage, Minnie, who is now Mrs. L. D. Holms, of Santa Anna, California. They have a fruit ranch there. Mr. and Mrs. Albertson have been the parents of four children, Orris, Jr., Eleanor, Coral and Earl. Orris, Jr., who died in 1911 at the age of thirty years, married Lona Larson and had three children. Eleanor is the wife of William Neshiem, a druggist of Moorhead, Minnesota, and has two daughters. Coral is the wife of Otis Hoyt, of Fergus Falls, who had a music store in that city until 1910, when he sold out and moved to Missoula, Montana, where he had a large piano store. He recently sold out at Missoula. Mr. and Mrs. Hoyt have three children. Earl married Anna Davis, of Detroit, Minnesota, where he now lives. He is a traveling salesman and the father of two children.

Mr. Albertson has been a Republican all of his life. He served as township clerk for eight years during the early history of this township. He was also postmaster of Battle Lake and held the office for six years. Mr. Albertson served on the school board and as president of the village. In 1904 he was elected sheriff of Otter Tail county and served for four years. Fraternally, Mr. Albertson is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. Mrs. Albertson is a member of the Reorganized Church of Latter Day Saints.

It can be said of former Sheriff Orris Albertson, that he gave to the

people of Otter Tail county a most efficient and effective administration as sheriff and that he has well discharged his duties as a public and private citizen. Few men living in Otter Tail county are so well known as he, and few have an equal number of friends throughout the county.

CARL J. JOHNSON.

Carl J. Johnson, who owns eighty acres of land in section 9, of Everts township, is a native of Minneapolis, Minnesota, where he was born on August 27, 1875.

Mr. Johnson is the son of Ole and Karn Johnson, both of whom were natives of Norway. Mr. Johnson's father was born in 1845 and his mother in 1855. They came separately to America and settled in Minneapolis, Minnesota, where they married. They were the parents of six children, four of whom are living, Carl J., Anna, Tillie and Sophie. Mr. Johnson's parents came to Fergus Falls, Minnesota, in 1880 and in 1881 moved to Everts township, where they took a homestead. Here Mr. Johnson's father died in 1885. After his death, the mother and the remainder of the family returned to Fergus Falls, where the mother died on December 31, 1886.

Carl J. Johnson, after the death of his mother, lived with Even A. Glende and attended the public schools. For twelve years, he rented a farm of one hundred acres in section 8, of Everts township. Mr. Glende is now deceased, but his widow still lives on the farm. Mr. Johnson owns eighty acres in section 9, of Everts township, which he purchased in 1910. He is unmarried. He is a member of the Lutheran church and popular as a farmer and citizen of this township.

WILLIAM BECKMAN.

Born in Sweden, April 2, 1862, William Beckman, a well-known citizen of Sverdrup township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, was educated in the schools of his native land, and came to America in 1883, settling finally in Otter Tail county, Minnesota. Shortly after coming to this county, Mr. Beckman was married, and for the next thirteen years he lived in Friberg township, but in 1910, came back to the old homestead in Sverdrup township. He is a general farmer and stockman, and has been very successful in his chosen vocation.

On January 5, 1889, Mr. Beckman was married in Otter Tail county, Minnesota, to Nellie Pederson, who was born October 28, 1865, in Norway, and who is a daughter of Ole and Olena Pederson, both of whom were also natives of Norway, the former born in 1833, and the latter in 1838. Mrs.

Beckman's parents were married in Norway, and in 1870 came to America and settled in La Crosse county, Wisconsin, in 1871. They afterwards came to Otter Tail county, Minnesota, where they homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of land in Sverdrup township, and it is upon this farm that Mr. and Mrs. Beckman now live. Mrs. Beckman's father died on December 31, 1914, and her mother passed away on November 9, 1909. Mrs. Beckman is the only child born to her parents.

Mr. and Mrs. William Beckman are the parents of six children, Oscar, Olga, Selvin, Ludwig, Hulda and Willard. Of these children Ludwig is deceased. Olga, the second child, is the wife of Christian Onstad, and they have one daughter, Marie Geneva.

In the neighborhood where they reside, Mr. and Mrs. Beckman and family are highly respected and esteemed. They have a host of friends and acquaintances throughout the township and community.

HANS S. NELSEN.

Hans S. Nelsen, who is a member of the firm of O. C. Nelsen & Company, general merchants of Battle Lake, Minnesota, is a native of Norway, where he was born June 30, 1862, and the brother of O. C. Nelsen, senior member of the firm in which he is interested.

Mr. Nelsen is a son of Nels and Helena (Johnston) Nelsen, both of whom were natives of Norway, who were born there in 1827 and 1825, respectively. Mr. Nelsen's father was engaged in farming until his death in 1899, after which, on September 15, 1901, his widow emigrated to America and settled in Battle Lake, Minnesota, where her death occurred October 15, 1901. They were the parents of five children, of whom the fourth and fifth born are deceased. The living children are Ole Christian, Josephine and Hans S.

Educated in the public schools of his native land, Hans S. Nelsen arrived in America on October 16, 1880, and settled at Chicago, from which place he emigrated to Stillwater, Minnesota, in 1882, and after living two years in the latter place, he removed to Battle Lake, working for the next few years at both Stillwater and Battle Lake. In 1889 he accepted employment with his brother, Ole C. Nelsen, in the latter's store, and was employed by him until 1907, when he became a member of the firm of O. C. Nelsen & Company. Mr. Nelsen also owns a farm of one hundred and fifty-seven acres in Everts township, and is a shareholder in the Farmers Elevator Company, of Battle Lake, Minnesota. He also owns stock in the Battle Lake creamery.

In 1902 Hans S. Nelsen was married to Johanna Christine Scott, the sister of Mrs. H. O. Larson, and to this union have been born five children:

Herbert Scott, who is deceased, Helen, Catherine, Frederick Alexander, Julius Melvin and George.

Mr. and Mrs. Hans Nelsen and family are prominent members of the United Lutheran church. Mr. Nelsen has never been active in politics, and has never aspired to office. Nevertheless he is known as a good man and a good citizen.

OLE M. HAGEN.

Among the most successful stockmen and business men of Otter Tail county, Minnesota, is Ole M. Hagen, of Sverdrup township, who was born in Norway, July 31, 1866.

Mr. Hagen is the son of Mikkell and Gurina (Hallan) Hagen, who died in Norway. They were the parents of nine children, Ole M., Martha, Gertie, Johannes, Mette, Elseus, Elof, Margaret, who died in infancy, and Inger.

Mr. Hagen was educated in the public schools of Norway and, in 1888, came to America and immediately thereafter settled in Otter Tail county, Minnesota, purchasing a farm of one hundred and forty acres in Sverdrup township, which he now owns. When Mr. Hagen purchased the farm in 1896, there were only five acres of land in cultivation, but now the whole farm is under cultivation and it is a very productive tract of land. Mr. Hagen has magnificent buildings on the farm.

In 1894 Ole M. Hagen was married to Julian Nelson, who was born in Aurdal township, Otter Tail county, in 1877, and who is the daughter of Haldor E. and Mette Nelson, both of whom were natives of Norway and early settlers in Aurdal township. Mrs. Hagen's father died in 1880, but her mother is still living. Mr. and Mrs. Hagen have been the parents of twelve children, Mabel, Helmer, Alvena, Laura, Jonas, deceased, Ernest, Hilma, Julia, Olene, Henry, Marie and Ellen.

Mrs. Ole M. Hagen was the youngest of four children, the others being, Gertie, who lives in the state of Washington; Josie, deceased; and Hannah, also deceased. After the death of Mrs. Hagen's father, her mother was married again in 1882, to Nels E. Nelson, a brother of her first husband. To them were born four children, Haldor, deceased, Anna, Nels, Jr., and Henry.

Ole M. Hagen is a stockholder in the Underwood Co-operative Creamery and in the Co-operative Mercantile Store at Underwood. He is also manager for the stock shipping association and has been engaged in the stock business as a dealer for the past ten years.

One of Mr. Hagen's brothers, who own an adjoining farm, Elof Hagen, was born in Norway, November 15, 1881, and was educated in the public schools of his native land. He came to Sverdrup township, Otter Tail county,

in 1899 and, for some time, worked in Fergus Falls and in Dakota. Elof Hagen was married on June 15, 1909, to Alvena Jensen, who was born on the farm where she and her husband now live, August 5, 1878. Mrs. Hagen is the daughter of Jens and Karen Christina (Neilson) Jensen, who were born in Denmark, the former on March 9, 1842, and the latter on January 6, 1847. They came to Otter Tail county in 1872 and homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of land. They also bought twelve acres of land, upon which they erected good buildings. Mrs. Elof Hagen's father died in 1910 and her mother three years previously in 1907. They were members of the Unitarian church and had a family of nine children, Alma, Caroline Marie, deceased; Anna, deceased; Alvena, Hannah, who died in infancy; Nels Peter, Hannah, deceased; George, deceased, and Alfreda.

Mr. and Mrs. Elof Hagen have two children, Katherine, born on July 5, 1910; and Mervin, born on January 9, 1912.

It is doubtful if there are now living in Sverdrup township, any family which surpasses the Hagen brothers in general intelligence, popularity and all-around success in business. The Hagen brothers are well known in this part of Otter Tail county and enjoy the confidence and esteem of a host of friends.

OTTO NILSBY.

Born in Norway on February 18, 1861, Otto Nilsby, a successful farmer of Sverdrup township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, is the son of John O. and Karn Mathea (Larsen) Nilsby, both of whom were born in Norway, the former in 1824 and the latter in 1822.

In 1870 the Nilsby family came to America and settled in Houston county, Minnesota, and, with an ox team, moved to Otter Tail county two years later, homesteading one hundred and sixty acres of land. John O. Nilsby cleared a great deal of land during his life and made extensive improvements upon his homestead farm. He died on this farm in 1909 and his wife one year later. They were members of the Lutheran church and prominent in the community where they lived. They had only one child, Otto, the subject of this sketch. Mr. Nilsby's father was a tailor by trade, but never followed his trade after coming to this state. He lived on his homestead farm and his life was devoted to agriculture.

Otto Nilsby was educated in the public schools of Norway and in this country. He was nine year old when he accompanied his parents to America. After settling in Minnesota, he attended the public schools of this county and state and, when eighteen years old, entered the Augsburg Seminary at Minneapolis, Minnesota, where he was a student for three years.

Mr. Nilsby is a farmer by occupation and now owns the old homestead

farm which his father acquired upon his removal to this country. Mr. Nilsby is a general farmer and stockman and is prominent in the agricultural life of this township.

In 1884 Otto Nilsby was married to Emma Erickson, who was born on December 15, 1863, in Sweden, and who is the daughter of Erick and Mary (Larsen) Erickson, both of whom died in Sweden. Mr. and Mrs. Otto Nilsby have been the parents of ten children, Olga Julia, Lydia Matilda, Alma Theresa, Hulda Malvina, deceased, Clara Eledia, Hulda Clarissa, Ida Melvina, Alvin Victor, Wilhelm Ludwig and Hjalmar Rudolph. Of these children, Olga Julia married Haldor G. Moen and has three children, Edna, Borgel and Hilma, Lydia married Hans Hegen and has one child, Lila. Alma is the wife of Andrus Graurud and has one child, Byron. Clara is the wife of Martin Gilbertson and has one child, Floris.

Politically, Mr. Nilsby is identified with the Socialist party. For the past twenty-seven years, he has been assessor of Sverdrup township and for the past twenty-six years, he has been a member of the local school board. Mr. and Mrs. Nilsby and family are members of the Unitarian church. They are active in religious matters and contribute liberally to the support of the church of which they are members.

MARTIN KNUTSON.

Martin Knutson, a prosperous farmer of Everts township, is a native of the Hawkeye state, where he was born on May 21, 1865. He is the son of Albert and Mary Knutson, both of whom were born in Norway, the former in 1812 and the latter in 1824.

The Knutsons, after their arrival in America in 1845, settled in Iowa and were there married. In 1868 they immigrated to Clitherall township and homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of land. Mr. Knutson's father lived at Battle Lake during the seven years prior to his death, which occurred in 1886. His wife died eight years later in 1894. They were members of the Lutheran church and had a family of five children, Martha, Jennie, deceased; Charles, Martin and Anne, deceased.

Educated in Clitherall township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, Mr. Knutson engaged in the meat business at Battle Lake for eight years and is now engaged in farming. He owns one hundred and seventeen acres in Girard township, Otter Tail county, which he purchased in 1901. He now lives on a farm of one hundred acres in section 25, of Everts township, which formerly belonged to C. E. Berg, his brother-in-law, who now lives at Vining, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, and is unmarried. Mr. Knutson is a general farmer and stockman.

In 1896 Martin Knutson was married to Kare Berg, who was born in

1867 in Norway and who is the daughter of Olaus and Rebecca Berg, who came to Everts township in 1889. Mrs. Knutson's parents are now both deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Knutson have one son, Orris Knutson, who was born on July 30, 1907.

Mr. and Mrs. Knutson and their son are members of the Lutheran church and take an active part in religious affairs.

WALTER WEST.

Among the well-known farmers of Otto township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, is Walter West, who was born in Otto township, on August 10, 1884, the son of Isaac and Bertha (Tapo) West, both of whom are natives of Finland, the former born in that country in 1842, and the latter born in the same country in 1846. Isaac West, shortly after his marriage to Louisa Lonto, his first wife, came to America and located in the state of Michigan, where he lived for some time and then his wife died, leaving two sons, Charles and Arthur, with whom the elder West moved to Otter Tail county, Minnesota. In Otto township, Isaac West bought eighty acres of land, to which he added until he now is the owner of three hundred and sixty acres of land on which he lives as a general farmer. Isaac West was married, secondly, to Bertha Tapo and to this marriage were born the following children: Ida, Levi, Walter and Phillip, the latter of whom is deceased.

Walter West was educated in the public schools of Otter Tail county, after which he was a salesman for some time and then he became a locomotive fireman, a line of work which he followed for a time and then took charge of his father's farm, where he now engages in general agricultural pursuits and stock raising.

In February, 1915, Walter West was married to Anna Erkkila, the daughter of Jacob and Lizzie Erkkila, well-known people of Otto township.

JOHN P. NELSON.

John P. Nelson, well-known implement dealer of Almora, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, is a native of Sweden, born on March 20, 1868, the son of Nels and Ellen Person, both of whom were natives of Sweden, and who came to Henning township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, in 1888. Upon coming to this county, Mr. Nelson's parents purchased one hundred and twenty acres of land in Henning township and here Mr. Nelson's mother died in 1911, at the age of sixty-three years. Mr. Nelson's father is now living on the old farm and is sixty-eight years old. He sold the farm, however, to his son, Peter P. Nelson. There were seven children in the Nelson family. Ellen, who is the wife of John Brogart, who is mentioned elsewhere in this

volume; John P., the subject of this sketch; Hans, who is deceased; Nels, Gustine, Peter P., and Ingre.

John P. Nelson was educated in the public schools of Sweden and in 1887 came to America and settled in Henning township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, where for some time he worked by the day and by the month on farms in Henning township. After a time, he purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land in section 31, of Amor township. In 1912 Mr. Nelson sold this farm and the same year moved to Almora and engaged in the implement business. He also purchased a blacksmith shop, to which he built an addition for his implement business. Since 1912, Mr. Nelson has been engaged in the implement business and is also manager of the blacksmithing business. He is a stockholder in the Almora Co-operative Creamery Company. Mr. Nelson owns a residence in Almora and it is here that the family lives.

John P. Nelson was married to Jennie Axlena Osterberg, who was born in New Jersey. She is a daughter of Alfred and Ellen Osterberg. They immigrated from New Jersey to Douglas county, Minnesota, and it was there that Mrs. Nelson's mother died. Her father is still living and is a farmer by occupation. Mr. and Mrs. John P. Nelson have six children, Joseph, Millie, Leonard, Reuben, Violet and Vernon.

Mr. and Mrs. John P. Nelson are members of the Norwegian Lutheran church. Mr. Nelson has served as treasurer of the school board and has been more or less active in politics ever since coming to Otter Tail county. He is a well known and popular citizen in Almora and vicinity.

JOHN SEM.

Among the successful young farmers of Sverdrup township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, is John Sem, who was born in Fergus Falls, Minnesota, September 28, 1883, and who is the son of Hans and Mary Ann Sem, both of whom were natives of Norway, who came to America about 1880, settling in southern Minnesota. One year later they emigrated to Otter Tail county, where they purchased one hundred and sixty acres of school land, and lived on this land from 1895 until 1913, when they moved to Oregon, where they now live. During the years from 1881 to 1895 the family lived in Fergus Falls, where Hans Sem worked at the carpenter's trade. Both he and his wife are earnest and faithful members of the Lutheran church. They are the parents of four children, of whom John is the second in order of birth. The eldest child, Anna, is deceased. The other two children are Hilma and Olga.

John Sem was reared in Fergus Falls and received his education in the schools of that city. Mr. Sem is now the owner of one hundred and sixty acres of land in Sverdrup township, which he has acquired from his father.

Most of the buildings on the farm were erected by the elder Sem, who sold it to his son in 1913.

In 1913 John Sem was married to Nellie Quam, who was born in Sverdrup township, December 18, 1883, and who is a daughter of Ole and Ingebor Quam, both of whom were natives of Norway, and who were early settlers in Sverdrup township, Otter Tail county. They homesteaded eighty acres of land, to which they afterwards added forty acres, but they subsequently sold the last forty to their son, Olaf. Mr. and Mrs. John Sem have one child, Homer, who was born on March 12, 1914.

Mr. and Mrs. Sem are well known in Sverdrup township, and are popular in the community where they live.

DANA L. BURTON.

Dana L. Burton, who is the proprietor of a highly productive farm of one hundred and twenty acres in Oak Valley township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, is a native of Whiteside county, Illinois, where he was born on November 27, 1869.

Mr. Burton is the son of Benjamin B. and Emerett (Martin) Burton, the former of whom was born in Chautauqua county, New York, October 12, 1835, and the latter born in Oswego county, New York, September 29, 1841. Mr. Burton's father immigrated to Illinois when eighteen years old and his mother accompanied her parents, Edward and Chloe (Hopson) Martin, to the state of Illinois. Mr. Burton's father died in Illinois, but his mother died in Otter Tail county in 1884.

The paternal grandparents of Dana L. Burton were William and Mary (Pierson) Burton, the former of whom died in New York soon after his son, Benjamin B., was born. His wife later moved to Illinois and died there in 1876.

Benjamin B. and Emerett (Martin) Burton were married in Illinois, April 11, 1858, and, in 1878, moved to Otter Tail county, Minnesota, locating in Compton township on a homestead of eighty acres. Later Mr. Burton purchased eighty acres adjoining his original farm and here he lived for fifteen years. In the meantime, he purchased and sold eighty acres in section 2, of Oak Valley township. He lived on this other farm until the death of his wife on April 10, 1904, and since that time has lived with his son, Dana L., in Oak Valley township. He served as justice of the peace for about eighteen years and is a prominent member of the Evangelical association. There were six children born to Benjamin B. Burton and wife, William, Helen, Walter, Jennie, Dana L. and Rose, who is deceased.

Dana L. Burton, who was reared on a farm in the state of Illinois, where he lived until nine years old, came to Otter Tail county with his parents. He

attended the public schools of this county and has always been engaged in farming. Twenty years ago, Mr. Burton purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land in section 25, of Oak Valley township. In 1898 he sold this farm and purchased eighty acres in section 24, of the same township. He later sold this second farm and in 1912 purchased one hundred and twenty acres in section 15, of Oak Valley township. It is upon this farm that Mr. Burton now resides.

Dana L. Burton was married on November 1, 1899, to Minerva Rode, who was born in the state of Illinois, June 24, 1880, and who is the daughter of Christian Rode, who is mentioned elsewhere in this volume. Mr. and Mrs. Dana L. Burton have one son, Wallace, who was born on July 27, 1900.

Mr. Burton has long been identified with the Republican party and has been prominent in its councils in Oak Valley township. He is now serving his second year as chairman of the board of supervisors of Oak Valley township.

JOHN L. OLSON.

Born in Norway in November, 1864, John L. Olson, of Inman township, who is well known as a farmer and citizen, was educated in the public schools of his native land and came to Fillmore county, Minnesota, in 1884.

Mr. Olson is the son of Ole and Mary Olson, both of whom were born in Norway and both of whom died in that country. Mr. Olson's father died in 1871 and his mother several years afterward. They were members of the Lutheran church and had a family of several children, some of whom died in infancy. Those who grew to maturity were, Anna, Olaf, Mary, and John L., the subject of this sketch.

After coming to Fillmore county, Minnesota, in 1884, John L. Olson immigrated to South Dakota, and homesteaded land, where he lived until 1890. He then came back to Minnesota and settled in Otter Tail county, purchasing one hundred and sixty acres of land in section 23. Later he sold this farm and purchased eighty acres in section 27, to which he moved in 1912. Mr. Olson has erected good buildings on the farm. He raises good crops which are current in this section of the state and not only has been successful in this respect, but has enjoyed a large success as a stockman. He is a stockholder in the Henning Shipping Association.

Several years ago, Mr. Olson was married in Otter Tail county, to Martha Seversen, who was born southwest of Minneapolis, Minnesota, in 1861. Mr. and Mrs. Olson have been the parents of two children, Lewis, born on April 30, 1901, and Myrtle, who died in infancy. Mr. and Mrs. Olson enjoy the confidence of all of their neighbors and are popular in Inman township.

GILBERT K. PEDERSON.

Gilbert K. Pederson, who is one of the most extensive farmers in Sverdrup township, where he owns two hundred and sixty-seven acres of splendid farming land, is a native of the township where he lives, and was born on February 2, 1878. Gilbert K. Pederson is a son of Knut and Mary Pederson, who are mentioned elsewhere in this volume.

Born and reared on a farm and educated in the public schools, Mr. Pederson grew up on his father's old homestead, and has been an active farmer all his life. He has made a specialty of raising stock, and has been very successful in this line of agriculture. In fact, he is known as one of the most successful stockmen in the township.

On June 2, 1903, Gilbert K. Pederson was married to Ragna Stomforo, who was born in 1885 in Sverdrup township, and who is a daughter of the late Fred Stomforo, of this township. Mr. and Mrs. Gilbert K. Pederson are the parents of six children, all of whom are living, as follow: Fred, Marion, Elmer, Grace, Ella, Clifford.

Mrs. Pederson's father and mother were both natives of Norway, and educated in the schools of that country. They came to America about 1872, and settled in Otter Tail county, where they homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of land. It was here that Fred Stomforo spent his last days. Mrs. Pederson's mother is now living in her home.

When the history of this township and section is written it must accord to Gilbert K. Pederson high rank as a farmer, citizen and business man. He has worthily discharged all the duties of life, both private and public.

FREDERICK PRENTICE.

Frederick Prentice, prominent farmer of Rush Lake township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, was born in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, on June 10, 1873, the son of Adam F. and Sarah (Birch) Prentice, both of whom were natives of Canada. Adam F. Prentice, after leaving his native country, went to Boston, Massachusetts, where he remained for some time and then moved to Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, where he engaged in the oil business and then, in the year 1879, the elder Prentice homesteaded a farm in the state of North Dakota, where he spent his last days, dying in the year 1905. His widow, Sarah, survived her husband until the year 1915, dying on February 10 of that year. Adam F. and Sarah Prentice were the parents of the following children, Wesley, Deborah, Frederick, Florence, William and Edith.

Frederick Prentice received his education in the schools of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, and in the schools of North Dakota, to which state he went with his parents, in the year 1870, after which he came to the state of Min-

nesota and became a student at the University of Minnesota, from the dairy department of which he graduated in 1890. Following his graduation from college, he came to Deer Creek, where he had charge of a creamery from 1890 until 1893, and then Mr. Prentice engaged in the hardware business for about two years. In 1905, Frederick Prentice came to the town of Richville and became a member of the firm known as Prentice & Brooks, general merchants, continuing in this line of business until September, 1910, when he bought a farm of one hundred and twenty acres in Rush Lake township, where he now engages in general farming and in stock raising. Mr. Prentice is also the owner of a first-class residence in the town of Richville.

In 1902, Frederick Prentice was married to Mary Hackett, who was born in Wisconsin, in 1877, the daughter of Frank and Ann Hackett, and to this marriage have been born six children, Erma, Clifford and Clifton, twins; Merle, Dorothy and Ramona.

Frederick Prentice has taken a prominent place in the business life of the community, he with Charles F. Franz and O. A. Zimmer, well-known citizens of Rush Lake township, having been the organizers of the Rushville Telephone Company, a corporation of which Mr. Prentice is the chief stockholder.

JOHN WALLACE.

Among the progressive and energetic farmers and business men of Otter Tail county, is John Wallace, a native of Michigan, having been born in Ann Arbor on September 25, 1860. He is the son of John and Mary Ann (Ferguson) Wallace, both of whom were born in Scotland, the father being born in 1829 and the mother in 1827. In 1855 Mr. Wallace left his native country and came to Canada, where he remained until the next year, on the arrival of Mary Ferguson, whom he married and they took up their residence in Ann Arbor, Michigan.

The family remained in Ann Arbor until 1879, when they came to Cander township, where the father entered one hundred and twenty acres of land in section 4. Substantial buildings were erected and the land improved, and here the father and mother made their home until their death, the former on March 31, 1915, and the latter on April 26, 1903. They were the parents of the following children: Margaret, Hannah and John, Jr.

John Wallace received his education in the town of his birth and in the public schools of Cander township. Coming to the new home when but a lad of ten years, he experienced the difficulties of getting an education in the rural schools of that time, as well as the trials of the boy on an undeveloped and unimproved farm. Most of the farm was cleared and improved by the

elder Mr. Wallace and his young son, and many difficulties were encountered and overcome.

John Wallace today owns and operates the old home place, where he carries on general farming and stock raising. The farm is an index of the progressive and industrious farmer of today, being well cared for and the stock among the best. Mr. Wallace is also a stockholder in the Equity Warehouse at Vergas.

On January 11, 1905, John Wallace was married to Ella Nicholson, who was born on January 15, 1883, in Norway, having come to the United States in early life.

Mr. and Mrs. Wallace are the parents of the following children: Robert Marlin, born on October 12, 1905; Bessie Margaret, October 23, 1907; John William, April 9, 1910; Mary Elizabeth, May 20, 1912, and Harold Waller, November 13, 1914.

FRED C. BRANDT.

Among the well-known farmers of Maplewood township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, is Fred C. Brandt, who was born in Germany, on April 14, 1846, the son of Henry and Sophia Brandt, both of whom were natives of Germany, in which country they lived their entire life.

Fred C. Brandt came to America in September, 1864, and located at Waverly, Bremer county, Iowa, where he lived until 1882, and then moved to Fergus Falls, Minnesota, working near that city for H. E. Page, a well-known farmer of the community, after which Mr. Brandt came to Maplewood township and bought a small farm, which he has extensively improved and supplied with good equipment and where he now engages in general agricultural pursuits.

In 1869, Fred C. Brandt was married to Sophia Fischer, who was born in Cook county, Illinois, in 1852, the daughter of Henry and Sophia Fischer, who were among the early settlers of Cook county, where the elder Fischer lived for some time and then moved to the state of Iowa, where he farmed for some time and then moved to Wall Lake township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, where he spent the remainder of his days. To the marriage of Fred C. and Sophia Brandt have been born the following children: Emma, now deceased, who married William Haverty; Herman, who after service in the Spanish-American War, where he became incapacitated as the result of typhoid fever, returned to Minnesota and was appointed to a position at the state hospital, at Fergus Falls, where he has been engaged for sixteen years; Mary, who is the wife of Frank Bone, formerly of Maplewood township, now of Kidder county, North Dakota; Henry, who after two years as an employee of the state hospital at Fergus Falls and after some time as a

mail carrier became a student of, and graduated from, a college of pharmacy, after which he became a pharmacist of Omaha, Nebraska; and Clara, who is an employee of the state hospital, at Salem, Oregon.

Fred C. Brandt has served on the school board of Maplewood township for fourteen years and is a citizen who has taken an active part in the advancement and development of the community and its interests.

DAVID TULLIS.

David Tullis, a native of Canada and a retired citizen of New York Mills, Newton township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, is the son of David and Matilda Tullis, who were also natives of Canada.

In 1883 the Tullis family came to Otter Tail county, Minnesota, and homesteaded one hundred and thirty-six acres of land in Newton township about two miles from New York Mills. David Tullis, Sr., died on this homestead farm after he had succeeded in clearing much of the land, in 1908. His wife died many years previously in 1895. They were the parents of five children, of whom three, Arthur, the eldest, Margaret and Mary the two youngest, are deceased. The two living children are, Thomas and David, the subject of this sketch.

David Tullis was reared and educated in Canada. He came to Newton township, Otter Tail county, with his parents and has done most of the work on the old homestead farm. Some years ago, however, Mr. Tullis, purchased the homestead of one hundred and thirty-six acres in section 18, of Newton township. Mr. Tullis is unmarried. He has never aspired to office and lives a quiet life. He now lives on his farm and enjoys life. He has a good farm and produces abundant crops and keeps his farm in an up-to-date manner. In fact, it is doubtful whether there is a farm of the same size in Newton township which produces more abundantly than the farm owned by David Tullis.

Mr. Tullis is popular in the neighborhood where he lives and, although a man of modest and unassuming manners and of quiet demeanor, he is admired and respected in this community.

JOHN SAYER.

One of the best known and successful farmers of Otter Tail county, is John Sayer, a German by birth, having been born in that country on July 18, 1860. He is the son of Joseph and Walberga (Schneiderhaun) Sayer, both of whom were natives of Germany, where they died, the father in 1900 and the mother in 1864.

John is one of a family of five children as follow: Carl, John, Katie,

Mary and Magdaline, all of whom are alive excepting Mary. John Sayer received his education in his native country, where he grew to manhood. On coming to the United States he settled in Scott county, Minnesota, where he worked as a farm hand for some time, after which he located in McCloud county, where he purchased eighty acres of land. After selling this land some time later, he came to Otter Tail county, in 1887, and bought one hundred and sixty acres in section 4, Candor township. Later, he purchased forty acres in Hobert township.

Mr. Sayer has always lived an active and industrious life and by constant application to his work, he has succeeded in clearing his farm, on which are to be seen substantial and well-kept buildings. He has a barn thirty-four by fifty-four feet, which is one of the best in the township. The farm is well tilled and always in a high state of cultivation. Mr. Sayer practices general farming and is an extensive stock raiser, in both of which he is most successful. He is a stockholder in the creamery at Vergas and is active in its management. For the past six years he has been treasurer of the school board and takes an active interest in all educational work.

In 1889 Mr. Sayer was married, at Frazee, Becker county, to Margaret Shear, who was a native of Canada and the daughter of Ignatius and Malissa Shear. The father died in Canada, the mother and family came to Otter Tail county, where she died in 1914, while making her home with Mr. and Mrs. Sayer.

Mr. and Mrs. Sayer are the parents of the following children, all of whom are alive: Louis, Clements, Henry, Katrine, Theresa, Francesca and George.

PERRY REYNOLDS.

Perry Reynolds, a well-to-do farmer of Scambler township, was born on October 4, 1859, in Branch county, Michigan. He was the son of Ambrose and Margaret (Delori) Reynolds, both of whom were born in New York, the father on October 31, 1827, and the mother in 1826. They both settled in Branch county in early life and were married there, having lived in Ligonier, Indiana, for a time. The family owned a farm in Michigan, which was sold, and then they came to Olmsted county, Minnesota, in 1887, where the father died in 1897 and the mother in 1901. They were the parents of three children: Harrison, who is dead, Clarissa and Perry.

Perry Reynolds received his education in Branch county, Michigan, where he grew to manhood. In 1882 he left the state of his nativity and located in Olmsted county, Minnesota, after which he removed to Dodge county, where he purchased land and remained until 1899, when he came to Otter Tail county and bought one hundred and sixty acres in section 26,

Scambler township. Here he has made his home and the farm has been much improved, the care of the buildings receiving his careful attention and the entire place being an index of the careful, prudent farmer. In the past, Mr. Reynolds has been a member of the school board and for the past two years has been supervisor of his township. He is a man held in high esteem by those who know him and has been successful in his life work.

Mr. Reynolds was married in April, 1892, to Ann Caldwell, who was born on May 19, 1872, in Dodge county, and who was the daughter of Thomas and Lany (Billings) Caldwell. The father was born in Wisconsin in 1845 and the mother in Indiana in 1847. Mr. and Mrs. Caldwell came to Dodge county from Wisconsin in 1870 and here made their home, where the mother died in February, 1915. They were the parents of five children: Ellen, Anna, William, Thomas and Roy. Mr. Caldwell served in the army during the entire Civil War, having enlisted in the Eighth Wisconsin Infantry in 1861.

Mr. and Mrs. Reynolds are the parents of six children as follow: May, Floyd, Ethel, Hazel, William, deceased, and Pearl.

ROBERT HORNER.

Born in St. Claire county, at Fair Haven, Michigan, February 9, 1851, Robert Horner, a well-to-do farmer of Oak Valley township, began life as a poor man, and is today rated not only as a successful farmer, but as one of the leading citizens of the township where he lives. Mr. Horner has property in Deer Creek and is a prominent stockholder in the Lyman creamery. He is the owner of one hundred and sixty acres of land, and this farm is now operated by his son. Mr. Horner is living retired after many years of active labor in the farming and business world.

Robert Horner is a son of Samuel and Bridget Horner, who were natives of County Cork, Ireland, and of Scotland, respectively. After their marriage, Samuel and Bridget Horner settled in St. Claire county, Michigan, where the former was killed in an accident in 1868. His wife had died previously in 1851, when her son, Robert, was only an infant. Samuel Horner and wife were the parents of four children, Maggie, Samuel, Alice and Robert. Mr. Horner's father had been previously married, and by his first marriage there were two sons, John and James, both of whom are deceased. By a third marriage he had six children.

Robert Horner lived in Michigan until he reached the age of eleven years, and attended the public schools of St. Claire county. He came at the age of eleven years to Rice county, Minnesota, where he lived until 1898, at which time he moved to Otter Tail county, Minnesota. Mr. Horner had owned fifty acres of land in Rice county. After coming to Otter Tail county

he purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land in section 8, of Oak Valley township. During the next few years, Mr. Horner made many substantial improvements on his farm, erecting good buildings, fences, and draining and cultivating the land. His barn is large and commodious, being thirty-two by fifty feet in dimensions. He has cleared all of his land with the exception of fifty-five acres, there being at the present time one hundred and fifteen acres under cultivation. In 1914 Mr. Horner retired from active life and moved to Deer Creek, where he is now living. His son, Samuel R., rents the farm and operates it for his father.

On July 22, 1876, Mr. Horner was married to Malissa Gilhousen, who was born in Rice county, Minnesota, and who is a daughter of Elias and Elizabeth (Gifford) Gilhousen, both of whom were natives of Pennsylvania, and came to Rice county, Minnesota, in pioneer days. They later lived in McCloud county, Minnesota, but died in Rice county.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Horner are the parents of eight children, of whom one, Nora Ellen, the eldest child, is deceased. The living children are Francis M., Mary Ellen, Robert Allen, Cora Ellen, Fannie Esther, Samuel Ray, and Grace Ellen.

Mr. Horner served on the township board for eight years, and also served on the school board of the township for a number of years. He has been prominent in local affairs, and is rated in the township where he lives as a first-class citizen.

JOHN B. LEHMANN.

Born in Hastings, Dakota county, Minnesota, August 27, 1864, John B. Lehmann, a prosperous farmer of Oak Valley township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, owns eighty acres of land in section 14, Oak Valley township, and is well known as a farmer and stockman.

Mr. Lehmann is the son of Frederick and Mary (Roller) Lehmann. His father was born in Germany in 1825 and his mother in 1838. The former came to America and settled at Burlington, Iowa, when still a young man. Later he moved to Hastings, Minnesota, in pioneer days and was married there. He and his wife were the parents of eight children, all of whom are living, John B., Frank, Fred, Albert, George, Otto, Ernest and Bertha. The late Frederick Lehmann and his wife came to Otter Tail county, Minnesota, in 1876, and located on a farm in section 12, of Oak Valley township. Here he lived until his removal to Wadena in 1893. He lived in Wadena about ten years, passing away in that town in 1903. His widow is still living and is now a resident of Wadena.

John B. Lehmann was reared on a farm principally in Oak Valley township, Otter Tail county, and was educated in the public schools of the town-

ship. Mr. Lehmann owns eighty acres of land in section 14, of Oak Valley township, and has been prominent as a farmer and stockman for many years. He is a stockholder in the Farmers Co-operative Creamery Company at Hewitt, Minnesota.

On November 21, 1895, Mr. Lehmann was married to Mary Ann Marshall, who was born in Iowa, on February 25, 1874. Mrs. Lehmann is the daughter of Rasmus and Laura (Nelson) Marshall, the latter of whom was born in Denmark in 1853, and who is now living at Wadena.

Mr. and Mrs. John B. Lehmann have been the parents of six children, all of whom are living and whose names in the order of their births are as follow: Erwin Stanley, Florence Lillian, Robert, Irene, Clarence and Edna.

Mr. Lehmann has been a member of the school board in Oak Valley township for some years and has also been road overseer in this township. He is a prominent farmer and citizen and a popular man in the neighborhood where he lives.

JOSEPH H. FARNHAM.

Born in Jefferson township, Buchanan county, Iowa, September 14, 1856, Joseph H. Farnham, a well-to-do farmer of Oak Valley township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, is the son of Sidney and Catherine (Jones) Farnham, the former of whom was born in Oswego, New York, and the latter near Toronto, Canada. Mrs. Catherine (Jones) Farnham was the daughter of John Jones, who came to America from Lincolnshire, England, and, after living in Canada for some time, migrated to the United States and settled at Rockford, Illinois. John Jones was a soldier in the War of 1812 and was taken prisoner during the war. He and his wife died at Rockford.

Mr. Farnham's father, the late Sidney Farnham, immigrated to Rockford, Illinois, in pioneer times and, after his marriage at that place, moved to Iowa in 1853. In 1857 he returned to Rockford, Illinois, but came back to Iowa in 1876 and there died in 1888 at the age of seventy-two years. His wife died several years later. They had seven children, William, Joseph, George, Addie, Benjamin, Debbie and John.

Joseph H. Farnham was reared at Rockford, Illinois, and attended the public schools of that city. He came to Iowa with his parents in 1876 and engaged in farming there until 1882, when he immigrated to South Dakota. Mr. Farnham lived in South Dakota nine years and then returned to Iowa and lived there for one year, after which he returned to South Dakota. In 1895 he came to Otter Tail county, Minnesota, and in 1897 purchased a farm of forty acres, soon adding forty acres and later one hundred and sixty

acres in sections 21 and 16, of Oak Valley township. Mr. Farnham is a general farmer and stockman and has been prominent in this county since coming here.

On March 10, 1878, Joseph H. Farnham was married to Lois Hill, who was born on February 15, 1859, in Wisconsin and who is the daughter of Frank and Rebecca (Smith) Hill. They died in the state of Wisconsin when Mrs. Farnham was a small girl. Her mother died about 1867. Mr. and Mrs. Farnham have nine children, Edna, Elmer, Everett, Ethel, Elsie, Ernest, George, Olive and Della.

Mr. Farnham has served as supervisor of Oak Valley township for several years and is the present supervisor of the township. He also served as a member of the school board for several years and has been otherwise prominent in local affairs. In the community where he has lived for several years, Mr. Farnham is rated as a first-rate and successful farmer.

SYVERT SKARSBO.

Born in Norway, December 28, 1871, Syvert Skarsbo, a prosperous farmer of Nidaros township, is the son of Sakaros and Anna (Knutson) Skarsbo, both of whom were born in Norway. Mr. Skarsbo's father died in 1912 at the age of eighty-four years, while his mother is still living in Norway, and is now about seventy-five years old. Syvert Skarsbo is one of nine children, one of whom, Berit Anna, is deceased. The other living children are Knut, Anna, Yatina, Olavus, Anna, Edward and Christiana.

Educated in the public schools of his native land, Syvert Skarsbo came to Otter Tail county, Minnesota, in 1892, settling first at Clitherall, in the vicinity of which he worked by the month for a number of years on neighboring farms. In 1903 Mr. Skarsbo purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land in section 28 of Nidaros township, and from time to time he has added to this farm until he now owns two hundred and twenty acres of land in one body, besides forty-five acres in section 15, of Nidaros township. The buildings which now stand on the farm were already erected when Mr. Skarsbo purchased the farm. However, he has built many rods of fencing, and made other substantial improvements.

In 1904 Syvert Skarsbo was married to Clara Ellingson, who was born in Nidaros township in 1883, on the farm where she is now living, which her husband owns. She is a daughter of Truls and Leva Ellingson, both of whom were natives of Norway, the former of whom was born on July 22, 1835, and the latter in 1838. They emigrated to America in 1861, locating in Houston county, Minnesota, where their marriage occurred. They came to Otter Tail county in 1872, homesteading one hundred and sixty acres of land in Nidaros township, and it is this farm which now belongs to Syvert

Skarsbo. Truls Ellingson is a son of Elling Olson and Leva Trulson, both of whom were born in Norway, the former in 1819, and the latter in 1816. They came to Houston county in 1861, and in 1864 the grandmother of Mrs. Skarsbo died in that county, and in 1870 her grandfather removed to Grant county, Minnesota, where he homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of land. About 1876 he removed to Nidaros township, Otter Tail county, and here lived with his son, Jens Ellingson, until his death in 1912. Elling Olson and wife were the parents of four children, Carrie, Truls, Ole and Jens. Mrs. Skarsbo's mother died in 1908. There were eight children in the Ellingson family, as follow: Edding, Tolena, Helmer, Lizzie, Clara, Helma, Ole B. and Sarah Matilda, all of whom are living with the exception of Ole B.

Mr. Skarsbo and family are active members of the Lutheran church, in which denomination the parents of both Mr. and Mrs. Skarsbo were also very active and prominent during their lives.

AUGUSTUS ROSELL BULLOCK.

Augustus Rosell Bullock, well-known farmer and prominent citizen of Dead Lake township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, was born in Freeborn county, Minnesota, on February 26, 1877, the son of Samuel Lewis and Sarah Ann Bullock, natives of Oswego county, New York, and Lake county, Illinois, respectively.

Samuel Lewis Bullock went to the state of Illinois with his parents, Tyler and Wealthy Maria (Cook) Bullock, who settled in Chicago, Illinois, and who later moved to Freeborn county, Minnesota, where Wealthy Maria Bullock died, after which Tyler Bullock came to Otter Tail county, where he died about the year 1893. Sarah Ann Bullock was the daughter of Joel and Mary Ann (Chope) Bullock, who settled in Lake county, Illinois, and then came to Freeborn county, Minnesota, where they lived for a time after which they moved to Otter Tail county, and in 1879, located in Dead Lake township, where Joel Bullock secured a farm of one hundred and sixty acres which he cultivated until his death in 1895. Mary Ann, the wife of Joel Bullock, died at Battle Lake, Minnesota, in 1913. Samuel Lewis Bullock, father of the subject of this sketch, was educated in the schools of Chicago, Illinois, after which he moved, with his parents, to Freeborn county, Minnesota, and later to Otter Tail county, where he took up a pre-empted claim of seventy acres of land, which he later sold and then Mr. Bullock bought twenty acres of land in section 36, Dead Lake township, where he lived until his death in June, 1913. Samuel Lewis and Sarah Ann Bullock were the parents of six children, Wealthy Maria, Alice, Augustus R., Elizabeth Ann, Charles Edward, and Marion, all of whom are now living.

Augustus Rosell Bullock was educated in the schools of Amor township, Otter Tail county, after which he became a farmer, buying forty acres of land, and later adding to his original purchase until he now owns one hundred and twenty-eight acres of land in sections 15 and 16, in Dead Lake township, where he engages in general agricultural pursuits.

On July 3, 1894, Augustus Rosell Bullock was married to Bertha Eckert, who was born in Freeborn county, Minnesota, on September 8, 1878, the daughter of James H. and Ida Ellen (Thompson) Eckert, natives of New York and Iowa, respectively. To the marriage of Augustus Rosell and Bertha Bullock have been born two children, Elmer Owen and Loran Douglas.

Augustus Rosell Bullock has served his township as school director for seven years, is now chairman of the board of supervisors, and is a man who is recognized as a leading citizen and one who has done no little in the development of his community and its various interests.

OLE A. CHRISTENSON.

Ole A. Christenson, a prosperous farmer of Otter Tail county, Minnesota, is a native of Norway, born there February 28, 1861. Mr. Christenson is a son of Christian and Johanna (Yergenson) Severson, who were natives of Norway, and who, in 1881, settled in Chippewa county, Minnesota, where they purchased forty acres of land. Here Mr. Christenson's father died on January 17, 1900, at the age of seventy years; his mother died in 1888, at the age of sixty-one. They were the parents of seven children, all of whom are living, and whose names in the order of their birth are as follow: Sever, George, Martin, Lizzie, Ole A., Carl and John.

Ole A. Christenson received his educational training in the schools of his native land, attending school from the age of seven until he was sixteen. In 1881 he came to America and settled in Chippewa county, Minnesota, with his parents. Here he homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres and purchased eighty acres of school land. He also purchased another eighty-acre tract of land which he subsequently sold. In 1902 he sold all his holdings in Chippewa county, and moved to the state of Washington, purchasing eighty acres of land in that state. Finally, he disposed of his land in Washington, and in 1905 settled in Otter Tail county, Minnesota. Here he purchased fifty-five acres of land in Henning township, but three years later sold the farm and bought one hundred and thirty-two and a half acres, all within the corporation limits of Henning, except forty acres. Mr. Christenson is a farmer and stockman, but has been engaged in other vocations at various times. He operated a restaurant at one time, and he now owns the building on the corner occupied by William Johnson. While a resident

of Chippewa county, he was supervisor of the township where he lived for five years, and chairman of the board for one year. He was also clerk of the school board for several years. While a resident of that county, he not only had a store on his farm, but was postmaster at Gletner for some years.

In 1891 Mr. Christenson was married in Chippewa county to Bertha Rear, who was born May 17, 1868, in Iowa, and is a daughter of Ole and Martha (Christoferson) Rear. Mrs. Christenson's father was born in Norway in 1830, and her mother in the same country in 1847. The latter was brought to America by her parents in 1850, and after living for a time in Iowa, the family finally settled in Lyon county, Minnesota, and here both her parents died, her father in 1883. Mrs. Christenson's father came to America when a young man and after his marriage in Iowa, emigrated to Lyon county, Minnesota, and in 1902, removed to the state of Washington, where his death occurred in 1912. His widow is still living in Washington, and is a resident of Ferndale. Ole and Martha Rear were the parents of seven children, of whom, Edward, the second born, Esten A., Anna A. and Mary, the last born, are deceased. The living children are Anna Bertha, who is now Mrs. Christenson, and Marie Christena.

Mr. and Mrs. Ole A. Christenson are the parents of five children, all of whom are living, as follow: Matilda Josephine, Carl Oscar, Axel Monroe, Edward Andreas and Melvin Ernest.

Mr. Christenson is known in Otter Tail county, not only as a prosperous and enterprising farmer, but as a generous-minded man and citizen.

JULIUS SHIRLEY.

Julius Shirley, a well-known farmer and prominent citizen of Trondhjem township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, was born in Norway, on January 26, 1856, the son of Lars and Jennie Shirley, who were natives of Norway. Lars Shirley came to America, in 1869, and located in Winneshiek county, Iowa, where he lived until 1879, and then moved to Otter Tail county, and homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of land in section 30, Trondhjem township, a place where Lars Shirley spent the remainder of his days.

Julius Shirley was educated in the schools of Norway, after which he came to America and settled in Winneshiek county, Iowa, living there until 1879, when he went with his parents to Minnesota and located in Otter Tail county, where he bought two hundred acres of land in section 29, Trondhjem township. Mr. Shirley improved his place with substantial buildings and has since lived on his farm as a general farmer and stock raiser.

On May 9, 1884, Julius Shirley was married to Anna Wee, a native of Norway, who was born on June 2, 1861, the daughter of Erick and Mary Wee, who were born in Norway, where they lived until 1880, when they

came to America and located in Iowa, later moving to Otter Tail county, Minnesota, and settling in Trondhjem township, where they spent their last days. To Julius and Anna Shirley have been born five children, Louis, John, Milla (deceased), Alfred and Alma.

Julius Shirley has been active and prominently affiliated in the public and official life of Trondhjem township, he having served as clerk of the school district for some time and for more than seventeen years Mr. Shirley has been a leading member of the board of supervisors, he at the present time being the chairman of that board. In political creed Julius Shirley is independent of party.

SYVRIN PEDERSON.

Among the well-known farmers and stock raisers of Trondhjem township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, is Syvrin Pederson, who was born on the old Pederson homestead in Trondhjem township, Otter Tail county, on January 12, 1879, the son of A. G. and Johanna (Opegard) Pederson, both of whom were natives of Norway, the former born in 1840, and the latter born in the same year. A. G. and Johanna came to America with their parents and located in Fillmore county, Minnesota, where A. G. and Johanna Pederson were married, after which they came to Otter Tail county, and settled on three hundred acres of school land in section 35, Trondhjem township, where the elder Pederson lived as a farmer for some time and then went to the states of Minnesota and North Dakota, where A. G. Pederson acquired considerable land, he at the time of his death being the owner of more than eight hundred acres of land. A. G. Pederson died in the year 1911, survived by his widow, who now lives on the home farm in Trondhjem township. A. G. and Johanna Pederson were the parents of the following children: Kari, Julia Augusta, Mollie, and Hannah, who are deceased, and Ole, Syvrin, Edwin, Thora, Henry and Melvin, who are living.

Syvrin Pederson received his early education in the common schools of Trondhjem township, after which he attended Park Region Lutheran College, and then he became a farmer, he renting one hundred and sixty acres of the home place, where he now is successfully engaged in general farming and in the raising of good grade live stock.

Syvrin Pederson is one of the most active and progressive farmers of Trondhjem township, not only conducting his place after the most approved scientific methods, but he is equipped with the best of machinery and implements for the conduct of his agricultural life. Although Syvrin Pederson is a public spirited citizen interested in the public welfare, he has not aspired to public office, but has preferred to serve his community as a private citizen. Mr. Pederson is unmarried.

BRADY BREDESON.

Brady Bredeson, a prosperous farmer of Nidaros township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, was born in Norway, October 18, 1865, and is the son of Knut and Reka Bredeson, who spent all of their lives in Norway, never having come to America. They were the parents of five children, Brady, Chester, Amon, Tora and Gilbert, who is deceased.

Brady Bredeson was educated in the public schools of Norway. In 1882 he came to America and settled in Nidaros township, Otter Tail county, where he has since lived.

In 1886 Mr. Bredeson was married to Mrs. Anna Bordson, who was born in Norway and whose parents died in that country. Mrs. Bredeson was the widow of Anton Bordson, who immigrated from Norway to America. During his life, he took a homestead of one hundred and twenty acres in Nidaros township and also purchased one hundred and twenty acres, which now belong to Mrs. Bredeson. By her first union, Mrs. Bredeson had two sons, Edwin, deceased, and Martin. Mr. and Mrs. Brady Bredeson have been the parents of one daughter, Clara, who died in infancy.

Mr. Bredeson has been more or less prominent in local politics and especially in educational affairs. He served as clerk of the Nidaros township school board and has held other positions of trust and responsibility. He is a well-known and successful farmer, an enterprising citizen and is well liked by all of his neighbors.

CHRIST KITTELSON.

Christ Kittelson, well-known farmer of Erhards Grove township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, was born in Norway, on February 9, 1862, the son of Hans and Bertha Kittelson, both of whom were natives of Norway. In 1870, Hans Kittelson came to America and located in Waseca county, Minnesota, where he lived for one year and then came to Otter Tail county, and homesteaded a farm in section 8, Erhards Grove township, a place which the elder Kittelson improved and to which he added eighty acres at a later time, and where he now lives. Hans and Bertha Kittelson are the parents of four children, Christ, Sophia, Mary (deceased), Anton (deceased) and Ragna.

Following his education in the public schools of Erhards Grove township, Christ Kittelson became a farmer, acquiring land from time to time until he now is the owner of four hundred acres of land, which he cultivates as a general farmer and where he engages in the raising of considerable good grade live stock.

In 1882, Christ Kittelson was married to Tilla Teringson, and to this

marriage have been born the following children, Helmer, Albert, Hannah and Clara, all of whom are now living. In 1900 the wife of Christ Kittelson died, and in the year 1902, Mr. Kittelson was married to Ottelia Lund. To this marriage have been born eight children, Carl, Olga, Henry, Alice, Emma, Arnold, Evalyn and Addela, all of whom are now living.

Christ Kittelson is not only successful as a farmer but he takes an active part in the public matters and general welfare of the community, now holding the office of township assessor and also the office of treasurer of the school board. Mr. Kittelson has been a member of the board of supervisors for a number of years and is recognized as one of the leading citizens in the life of the township and county.

CORNELIUS GRANT CHESBOROUGH.

Cornelius G. Chesborough, a self-made man and highly respected citizen of Gerard township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, is a native of Calumet county, Wisconsin, where he was born on April 20, 1865. Mr. Chesborough is a son of Cornelius and Hannah Minerva (Aldrich) Chesborough, both of whom were natives of New York state. Mr. Chesborough's parents emigrated from New York to Calumet county, Wisconsin, in 1848, and from there to Otter Tail county, Minnesota, in 1891. The father died in Otter Tail county, October 28, 1898, and the mother at Bemidji, Minnesota, in 1905. They were the parents of three children, of whom Cornelius Grant was the eldest. The other two children were Mattie and Sadie.

Cornelius Chesborough, Sr., had been previously married to Isabel Aldrich, who was a sister of his second wife, and by his first marriage had two children, both of whom are deceased. One died in infancy, and the other, Inez, died at the age of three years. Cornelius Chesborough, Sr., was a piano-maker by trade, and was employed for fourteen years in one factory in New York state, after which he engaged in farming. Early in life he was identified with the Republican party, but in later years became a member of the Prohibition party.

Cornelius G. Chesborough was reared in Wisconsin, and educated in the public schools of that state, and in the Stockbridge high school. Mr. Chesborough has always been engaged in farming. He came to Otter Tail county many years ago, arriving at Clitherall, February 1, 1887. For some time he worked as a laborer and made his home with C. J. Aldrich, a cousin, working at that time for E. E. Corliss, and later for his father-in-law, John A. Aldrich. He also worked for James H. Allen, of Gerard township. In 1898 Mr. Chesborough purchased eighty acres of land, to which he subsequently added another eighty acres, and these two tracts of land comprise his present farm, and here Mr. Chesborough has erected a comfortable

home and other farm buildings and here he lives at the present time, carrying on a general system of farming and stock raising.

In 1892 Cornelius G. Chesborough was married to Amanda Aldrich, who was born in Rice county, Minnesota, in 1883, and who is a daughter of John A. and Amelia (Eddy) Aldrich, early settlers of Rice county. Cornelius G. Chesborough and wife are the parents of six children, Florence, Leroy, Jessie, Alice, Lawrence and Ruby, all of whom are living.

Mr. Chesborough is independent in politics. He has served as clerk of the township board, and has been otherwise prominent in local politics. He is a member of the Sverdrup Farmers Mutual Fire Insurance Company, and a stockholder in the Henning Co-operative Farmers Shipping Association. Fraternally, he is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America, and has been a member of this order for seventeen years.

SIMON OLSON.

Simon Olson, one of the younger and most successful farmers and business men of Otter Tail county, was born on June 10, 1875, in Becker county, Minnesota, the son of Ole E. and Olena (Hovelson) Olson, both of whom were natives of Norway. Ole Olson was an extensive traveler before his marriage, having made the circuit of the globe. After his marriage he and his wife came to Otter Tail county, settling later in Becker county where he homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of land. He later sold this farm and purchased a smaller one in Cormorant township, Becker county, where he lives a retired life. They were the parents of the following children: Isabel, Edward (deceased), Simon, Henry, Olavus (deceased) and Sarah.

Simon Olson was reared on the old homestead and educated in the public schools of his home county, and at the Park Region Luther College at Fergus Falls. He is a successful farmer and an extensive landowner, having purchased his original farm of one hundred and fifty-seven acres in 1910, to which he added forty acres in 1911. He practices general farming and is an extensive stock raiser.

Simon Olson was united in marriage on June 7, 1899, to Betsey Nelsen, who was born on August 1, 1880, in Otter Tail county, and on the farm Mr. Olson now owns. She was the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Nelsen.

Simon Olson has led an active and useful life, having served for thirteen years as a member of the school board, three years as assessor and is at present time township treasurer, which position he has held for several years. He is a stockholder in the Farmers Elevator Company and the Pelican Rapids Telephone Company. He is also a member of the Pelican Rapids Shipping Association.

Mr. and Mrs. Olson are the parents of the following children: Edward Andman, born on June 5, 1900; Nester Simon, February 4, 1902; Clifford Tedmon, July 25, 1903; Bessie Olena, April 28, 1909, and Inez Jeneta, May 16, 1914, all of whom are living and at home. Mr. Olson and his family are active members of the Lutheran church.

JOHN H. OLSON.

John H. Olson, well-known farmer and respected citizen of Scambler township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, was born in Sweden, on November 7, 1873, the son of Ole and Nellie (Johnson) Nelson, both of whom were natives of Sweden, where Ole Nelson died in 1879, after which his widow, Nellie, came to America and now lives with her son John, of this sketch. Ole and Nellie Nelson were the parents of the following children, Ellen, Peter, Nels, John H. and Charles, all of whom are living.

John H. Olson was educated in the public schools of his native country, after which he came to America and located in the state of Nebraska, where he lived as a farmer for three years. In 1903 he moved to Otter Tail county and bought eighty acres of land in section 25, Scambler township, a place to which he added land until he now owns one hundred and sixty acres of well improved and highly cultivated land, where Mr. Olson now engages in general farming and stock raising. In addition to his general farm work John H. Olson makes a specialty of breeding fine grade Holstein cattle.

On December 13, 1913, John H. Olson was married to Emma Olson, who was born in Sweden, on November 16, 1874, the daughter of Ole Person and wife, who lived their entire life in Sweden, the former dying in 1913, the latter one year later.

John H. Olson is a stockholder in the Farmers' Elevator and Co-operative Creamery Company, of Pelican Rapids, and is a man who takes an active part and interest in the development of the community.

MICHAEL EICHMILLER.

Michael Eichmiller, one of the young farmers and successful men of affairs in Otter Tail county, was born in Carver county, Minnesota, May 22, 1873. He is the son of Michael and Barbara Eichmiller, both of whom were natives of Germany, the former being born on March 20, 1846, and the latter on August 24, 1850. The two came to the United States in 1872, locating in Carver county, where they were married, soon after taking up their residence in the new country. In 1878 they came to Candor township, Otter Tail county, and here they homesteaded in section 34, after which they added to their farm until at one time they had nine hundred and nine-

teen acres. Much of the land was sold at various times during the life of Mr. Eichmiller.

The family consisted of four children, Michael, the subject of this sketch, Philip, Augustus and Mary, all of whom are living. The father, Michael, died on November 7, 1902, and the son, Michael, and the mother live on the old homestead, consisting of three hundred and eighty-seven acres of well improved land, with good buildings, fences and other improvements.

Michael Eichmiller, the subject of this sketch, was educated in the public schools near the home where he was born and still resides. He was always interested in threshing and followed that occupation for twenty years. He now owns a threshing outfit of his own. Mr. Eichmiller has devoted much time and attention to the development of his well improved and highly cultivated farm. He believes in keeping his fields in a high state of cultivation and his buildings in good repair.

The Eichmillers have never been office seekers, yet the father of Mr. Eichmiller was treasurer of the school board for some time. The family is a highly respected and influential one in the township.

KNUT HANSEN.

Knut Hansen was born in Norway on June 18, 1833, and was the son of Hans and Maret Hansen, both of whom were natives of Norway, where they lived and died, the former in 1849 and the latter 1863.

Knut Hansen was educated in his native country where he lived until 1881, when he came to the United States and settled in Otter Tail county. He and Andrew Seversen purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land and later added one hundred and twenty acres to their original purchase. This they farmed together for six years, after which they divided the place, each taking one hundred and forty acres. In time, Mr. Hansen added to his farm until today he has seven hundred and sixty acres. This is divided into three tracts and has three sets of buildings. On the home farm Mr. Hansen has erected a most excellent set of buildings and the farm is well improved. He practices general farming and is an extensive stock raiser.

Knut Hansen was married in Norway to Ingeberg Jensen, who was born in 1830 and died in 1876. To this union one child was born, Hans, who still lives on the home place. After the death of his first wife Mr. Hansen was married to Petrine Brekke, of Otter Tail county, but who was a native of Norway, where her mother died. Her father, Peter Brekke, came to Otter Tail county where he died some years ago. To this union three children have been born, Peter, John and Ingram, all of whom are at

home. Mr. Hansen and his family are active members of the Norwegian Lutheran church.

Hans Hansen was born on March 3, 1874, and was educated in the schools of his home county. He is a successful farmer, but devotes a part of his time to threshing. He was married in 1901 to Regnel Sanden, who was born in Norway in 1873. Her parents still reside in that country.

Mr. and Mrs. Hansen are the parents of the following children: Hilda, Knut, Peter, Edna, Agnes, Grace, Selma, James (deceased) and James. Mr. Hansen is a man of much prominence and influence in his home county, having served for twelve years as a member of the board of supervisors and is at present their chairman.

TAYLER R. HALVERSON.

Among the younger farmers of Otter Tail county and of Tumuli township who have made a success of agricultural pursuits is Tayler R. Halverson, who was born on the Halverson homestead in Tumuli township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, September 3, 1883, the son of Robert and Tore (Serenson) Halverson, who were natives of Norway.

Robert Halverson came to America during the year 1886 and settled in Otter Tail county, where he took out a homestead in Tumuli township, consisting of one hundred and sixty acres of land, which he improved and to which he later added by purchase one hundred and sixty additional acres, making one-half section of land owned by this pioneer farmer. On taking possession of his farm Robert Halverson proceeded to prepare his ground for cultivation and placed many improvements on it, until he had one of the best farms of the county for the general agricultural pursuits, in which he engaged until the year 1915, when he retired and moved to the town of Dalton, after disposing of his farm land to his son Tayler, the subject of this sketch. Tore (Serenson) Halverson came to America with her parents, who located in Grant county, Minnesota, where they homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of land, on which the father spent the remainder of his days and where his widow now lives, at the age of eighty-five years. Robert and Tore Halverson were the parents of the following children: Mary, Oscar, Henry, Tina, Tayler, Tayler, Tina and Rose. Robert Halverson and his family are all members of the Norwegian church.

Tayler R. Halverson, the subject of this sketch, following his education in the public schools of Otter Tail county, helped his father on the home place until the year 1915, when on the retirement of the elder Halverson, Tayler Halverson succeeded his father and has since been engaged in general farming and stock raising. Tayler Halverson has been thoroughly successful in the operation and the conduct of the Halverson home-

stead farm and because of his industrious ways, his resourcefulness and his knowledge and training in modern agricultural pursuits, he promises to continue as one of the enterprising and well-to-do farmers of the county.

ALVIN OLSON.

Alvin Olson is one of the four children born to the union of Nels Olson and Christena Evander, and his birth occurred on April 12, 1880, in Clitherall township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota. The parents of Alvin Olson immigrated to America in 1869, and secured a farm under the homestead law, in Clitherall township, where they remained until their death. The paternal grandfather of Alvin Olson was Ole Erickson, who lived and died in Sweden. Alvin Olson is the second child born to his parents, and the names of his brother and two sisters follow: Christenia, Oleva and Oscar.

Alvin Olson received his education in the schools of Eagle Lake township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, and has always resided in this locality. He owns one-half of the old home place and, beside, owns two hundred acres on which he does general farming and stock raising. In 1905 he was successful in winning the hand of Emma Elwanger, and of this union five children have been born: Walter, Irene, Myrtle, Reynold and Roy. Emma (Elwanger) Olson is the daughter of Fred Elwanger, who immigrated to America from Germany and became a pioneer of Clitherall township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota. It was here that Emma Elwanger was born. Alvin Olson and his wife, Emma (Elwanger) Olson are both members of the Lutheran church at Eagle Lake, and are earnest supporters of this denomination. They have many friends among the citizens of this locality and are well liked by all who know them.

ED. E. LARSON.

Among the well-known and prosperous farmers of Otter Tail county and of Tumuli township is Ed. E. Larson, who was born in Tumuli township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, on September 25, 1875, the son of Erston and Creste (Peterson) Larson, who were natives of Norway. Erston Larson came to America at an early age, and engaged in general farming pursuits in Tumuli township, where he died. His widow, Creste Larson, after the death of her husband, remarried and now lives in Tumuli township. Erston and Creste Larson were the parents of six children: Serena, Louis, Mary, Ed., Christina and Martin.

Ed. E. Larson was educated in the public schools of Tumuli township, Otter Tail county, after which he helped his father on the home place for some time. During the year 1900 Mr. Larson bought one hundred and sixty acres of land in Tumuli township, a place which he improved with

the addition of new buildings and new equipment, where he has since been engaged in general farming.

During the year 1906, Ed. E. Larson was married to Bertha Anderson, who was born in Norway, the daughter of Andrew and Dortha (Mickelson) Larson, the former of whom is now deceased. Andrew and Dortha Larson were the parents of three children: Sarah, who lives in Norway; Lars, a resident of Canada, and Bertha, wife of the subject of this sketch, she having come to America during the year 1904, locating in Otter Tail county, where she was married to Ed. E. Larson. To the marriage of Ed. and Bertha Larson were born four children, Chester, Alice, Leona and Bernice. Ed. E. Larson and his family are members of the Haugus Norwegian Lutheran church, a congregation in which they are respected and appreciated both for their lives and for their support of the works and activities of the denomination.

In political life Ed. E. Larson has taken no especial part as an office holder or party man, but has preferred to serve his community as a private citizen interested and ready to aid his county and township in all ways.

WILLIAM TENTER.

Township Clerk William Tenter, of Edna township, this county, was born in Germany on November 8, 1866. He received his education in his native land and worked in the mines and on a farm there until 1891, in which year he came to America, coming directly to this county, to join his brother, Henry Tenter, who had settled here some time before and had become established as a substantial farmer of Edna township. In a biographical sketch of Henry Tenter, presented elsewhere in this volume, there are set out further details of the genealogy of the Tenter brothers, to which the reader is referred in connection with this sketch of William Tenter.

Upon arriving in Edna township, William Tenter purchased eighty-five acres of land on which he lived for two years, at the end of which time he sold that tract and bought the farm of eighty acres on which he now lives, to which he since has added by the purchase of forty acres adjoining and now has an excellent farm, all of which is well improved and under profitable cultivation. When Mr. Tenter located in Edna township, there were no roads thereabout and his place was practically unbroken timber. This he has cleared and improved by the erection of excellent buildings and is recognized as one of the leading farmers thereabout. In addition to his general farming, he gives much attention to the raising of Red Polled cattle and Poland China hogs and finds his stock raising a profitable feature of his agricultural pursuits.

In 1897 William Tenter was united in marriage to Lizzie Diederichs, who was born in Germany, daughter of Albert Diederichs, now a well-known resident of this county, a well-to-do farmer of Edna township, who came to this country from Germany in 1895, and to this union five children have been born, Tillie, Albert, Henry, Katherine and Margaret. Mr. and Mrs. Tenter are members of the Lutheran church and their children have been reared in the faith of that church. The Tenters are earnest in their endeavors to aid in all ways the betterment of conditions, social, moral and civic, in their home community and are active in all good works, being held in the highest esteem by their many friends in the neighborhood of their home.

William Tenter, ever since coming to this county, has taken a warm interest in civic affairs and for the past sixteen years has served the public in the important capacity of township clerk, in which position he occupied a prominent place in all community activities. For six years he served as township supervisor, during which period of service he did an excellent work in the way of developing better roads in that section of the county. He is a substantial citizen, well worthy of the entire confidence which his neighbors repose in him and fully entitled to the high measure of esteem in which they hold him.

HANS L. JORUD.

Hans L. Jorud is one of five children, born to the union of Lars Halverson Jorud and Christenia Thorstenson, both natives of Norway, who immigrated to America during the year of 1869. Immediately after their arrival in the United States, a farm was purchased, under the homestead law, in Fillmore county, Minnesota, and in 1870 the present homestead was purchased. This farm is located in Eagle Lake township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, and, after many years of successful farming on this place, Lars Halverson Jorud and his wife retired and spent the last ten years of their life at the home of their daughter, Amelia. The names of their children follow: Amelia, Thorwal, Hans L., Marcus and Oliver.

Hans L. Jorud was born on November 23, 1861, in Norway, and immigrated to America with his parents in 1869. He is indebted to the schools of Eagle Lake township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, for the education which he received, and he was reared, and has always remained, on the old home place, which he has improved and now owns. In the fall of 1914 the original buildings were destroyed by fire, but Hans L. Jorud immediately erected new ones. He has also added forty acres of land to the original homestead, and the entire place is devoted to general farming. Hans L. Jorud has been very active in local matters, and has served the

community as road supervisor and overseer for some time. In educational matters he has served as school director and has discharged the duties connected with both offices to the best of his ability. He has many friends and is well liked by all.

CHRIST E. KIRKVOLD.

Christ E. Kirkvold is a native of Norway, born in 1857, the son of Eric Larson and Marit R. Kirkvold, both natives of Norway, who lived and died in that country. Eric Larson Kirkvold was a farmer in Norway and the father of eight children.

Christ E. Kirkvold received his education in his native country, and immigrated to America in 1882, locating in Otter Tail county, Minnesota, where he has since resided. In connection with his brother, Hans, he purchased two hundred acres of land in St. Olaf township, but retained the property only one year. In 1892, a farm of one hundred and sixty acres was purchased, in Eagle Lake township, this county, on which he raises general crop and specializes in the breeding of Shorthorn cattle.

In 1906, Christ E. Kirkvold was successful in winning the hand of Olena Rea, a native of Norway, and daughter of Olas and Olova Rea, who still reside in Norway on a small farm, and to them have been born these children: Clarence, Norris and John. Religiously, Christ E. Kirkvold and his wife are members of the Lutheran Free church, and are active for the advancement and support of this denomination. Christ E. Kirkvold was appointed as a school director and served in that capacity for some time, discharging every duty connected with that office in an able manner.

ANDREW B. OLSON.

Andrew B. Olson was born at Skane, Sweden, May 14, 1863, the son of Ole and Hannah Tygeson, who were natives of Sweden and lived in that country during their entire lives, where Ole Tygeson was a farmer. Ole and Hannah Tygeson were the parents of four children: Par, who came to America and died in 1881 at Moorhead, Minnesota; Elma, Johanna and Andrew.

Andrew B. Olson was educated in the public schools of Sweden, but was compelled at an early age to leave his classes in order to make his way in the world, his parents having died when he was a youth. During the year 1887 Andrew B. Olson determined to come to America, and on reaching this country he located at Odebolt, Sac county, Iowa, where he worked on a farm for two months and then came to the state of Minnesota, where he was employed generally in building and street work at St. Paul for some

time and then he was engaged on railroad construction work for a time, after which he worked at general farm duties in the states of North and South Dakota. In the year 1891, Andrew B. Olson came to the city of Fergus Falls, Minnesota, near where he secured work on a farm, in Buse township, a place he lived until the year 1893, when he married and established himself as a farmer in partnership with a brother-in-law. Shortly afterward he bought eighty acres of land on which he built a house, planted an attractive grove, and otherwise improved into a well arranged and modern farm. In 1909 Andrew B. Olson purchased a farm of one hundred and sixty acres of land in Aasted township, where he now lives and a farm which is well cultivated and well equipped for general agricultural purposes.

Andrew B. Olson was married in the year 1893, to Tilda Swenson, who was born in Smoland, Sweden, and who came, at an early age, to America, with her parents. To the marriage of Andrew and Tilda Olson were born four children, Edwin, Hilma, Emma, and Henry.

Andrew B. Olson and his family are esteemed and valued residents of the locality, being people who are progressive and interested in the welfare of the community and its activities.

OLE PETERSON.

Ole Peterson was born on September 29, 1864, in Sweden, the son of Per Nelson and Inger Thortelson both natives of Sweden, who spent their entire lives in that country. Ole Peterson received his education in his native land and immigrated to America when seventeen years of age. After his arrival in the United States he located in Clitherall township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, and was employed on the railroad for a period of one year. Following this position he became a farm hand for two years and in 1885 purchased one hundred and twenty acres of land on which he now resides.

On January 3, 1885, Ole Peterson was united in marriage to Hannah Person, daughter of Per and Anna (Olson) Person, and they are the parents of three children whose names follow: Emil S., who is employed as a ticket agent in Bowman, North Dakota; Oliver and Edna. Hannah (Person) Peterson, wife of Ole Peterson, was born on January 9, 1866, and is a native of Sweden. Her parents were also natives of Sweden and immigrated to America in 1860. They located in Clitherall township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, and were the second family to locate in that community. They purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land, on which their son, Nels Person, now lives.

Ole Peterson has been very successful in his chosen line of endeavor
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and an ardent worker in the Swedish Lutheran church, of which he is a member, having held various offices in that congregation for a number of years. He is now deacon of the church and held the office of clerk for twenty-two years. He has also served his fellow citizens in the capacity of school clerk for a period of six years.

CHRISTIAN HERNES.

Christian Herness was born on January 22, 1879, in Eagle Lake township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, and is the son of Lars and Martha (Hollo) Herness, both natives of Norway. They immigrated to America several years previous to the birth of their son, Christian, and purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land, under the homestead law, on which the family resided until the father's death. They were the parents of nine children whose names follow: Henry, Emma, Julia, Minnie, Christian Lenna, Louis and Jessie, one other child dying in infancy. Lars Herness, father of Christian Herness, was a very energetic man and, beside clearing and cultivating his farm, erected buildings necessary for the family and the products of the farm, and these buildings were all of the best possible construction. The maternal grandfather of Christian Herness was Christian Hollo, who owned a homestead in Clitherall township, which he cultivated until his death.

Christian Herness received his education in the schools of Eagle Lake township, and, with the exception of seventeen months spent in North Dakota, where he homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of land, has resided on the old home place. Half of this farm is owned and retained by Martha (Hollo) Herness, while the other half is operated and owned by her son Christian Herness. In 1908 he was united in marriage to Wilma Thompson, a native of Alba Lake, Minnesota, and daughter of Tave Thompson, and to them have been born two children, Lyman and Lester. Christian Herness, his wife and mother are all members of the Norwegian Lutheran church, and are active in its support.

ALBERT HOLLATZ.

Albert Hollatz, farmer and stock raiser of Effington township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, was born on July 27, 1866, in Germany, and it was in that country that his education was received. He is the son of Ludwig and Elizabeth (Mialke) Hollatz, both natives of Germany. Ludwig Hollatz immigrated to America in 1882, with his wife and children, and located in Miller-ville, Minnesota, where he was employed as a day laborer. In 1885 he removed to Effington township, this county, where he purchased a farm con-

sisting of one hundred and sixty acres and located one mile east of the farm which is the property of his son, Albert Hollatz. The death of his wife occurred on this place and he is still a resident there.

Albert Hollatz immigrated to America, with his parents, and some years later purchased a farm of one hundred and fifty-two acres of unimproved land, and has continued to cultivate this one place ever since. Previous to buying the present farm he owned and cultivated eighty acres, located one mile north of the farm which he now operates.

In 1894 Albert Hollatz was united in marriage to Bertha Brockapp, daughter of Fritz Brockapp, both natives of Germany. Fritz Brockapp settled in Effington township after his arrival in America. To the union of Albert and Bertha Hollatz have been born the following children, namely: August, William, Anna, Ida, Bertha, Albert, Martha, Herman, John, Elda, Zelma and Paul. Both Albert and Bertha (Brockapp) Hollatz are devout members of the German Lutheran church and are very active in its support.

AUGUST MILLER.

August Miller was born on April 29, 1853, in Germany, and is the son of Powell and Elizabeth (Schmitkens) Miller, both natives of Germany. Powell Miller operated and owned a grist-mill in Germany, and followed the vocation of miller until his death in that country. Two of his brothers served in the German army, and were killed in service during the war of 1864.

August Miller immigrated to America in 1870, and first located in Cincinnati, Ohio, but soon removed to Kentucky, where he was occupied as stage driver and at various kinds of labor, for a period of three years, later removing to Illinois, where he was employed for three years as a farmhand. He then removed to Moore county, Minnesota, where he returned to his former trade of miller, which he had learned while a resident of Germany. After following this vocation for some time he removed to Parkdale, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, and operated a mill there for one year. In 1880, one year following the arrival in Otter Tail county, he purchased a small water mill located on the property which he now owns in Eagle Lake township. This mill he fully equipped and operated successfully until 1894, at which time it was destroyed by fire. The stream which ran the mill is an outlet of Eagle Lake. August Miller purchased a small farm at the same time he purchased the mill, and has added to the original place, until he now owns three hundred and eighty acres of well improved land. Owing to his ready investments he was fully equipped to enter the agricultural field, and thus, undaunted by the destruction of his mill, he became a breeder of Short-horn cattle, and has one of the finest herds ever raised in the county. In

1912 he retired from active farming and stock raising, but still resides on the place, of which he has sold a minor portion.

August Miller was united in marriage to Emma Neller, a native of Mower county, Minnesota, and to them have been born four children: Edward, Amelia, Nellie and Robert, all graduates of the high school in Fergus Falls. Edward and Robert are also graduates of the Columbus Business College located at Columbus, Ohio, and Edward is now a professor in a business college in San Francisco, California, while Robert is the head salesman for a furniture concern in Springfield, Ohio. Amelia and Nellie were engaged for some years in the capacity of school teachers. August Miller has always been actively engaged in the furtherance of all questions pertaining to the betterment of the community and has served his fellow citizens as school director, treasurer, and chairman of the board of supervisors. He is a member of the Free and Accepted Masons.

HAAGEN PAULSON.

Haagen Paulson is a native of Norway and his birth occurred on January 15, 1846. He is the son of B. and Isabel (Gunderson) Paulson, both natives of Norway, who lived and died in that country. B. Paulson was engaged in farming and followed that vocation until his death. To this union with Isabel Gunderson were born these children: Peter, Gunder, Seivert, Gerena, Haagen, Sophia, and Gertrude. This family lived near the town of Stodall, Norway, and were members of the Verness church, located in that town.

Haagen Paulson is indebted to the schools of his native land for the education which he received. At the age of twenty years he immigrated to America, and chose Rock county, Wisconsin, as a temporary location. There he was employed as a farm hand for four years, and was united in marriage to Mary Clemenson, while a resident of that county. The marriage of Haagen Paulson and Mary Clemenson was solemnized in 1870, and in 1873 they removed to Otter Tail county, where eighty acres of homestead land was purchased in Eagle Lake township. At the time of purchase this land was unimproved but the entire farm was cleared of the heavy timber then standing, and was put under cultivation. A specialty has been made of breeding and raising thoroughbred Belgian horses and Haagen Paulson has been notably successful along this line. He has increased his realty holdings until he now owns, besides the original eighty acres, two hundred and ten acres located in the townships of St. Olaf and Eagle Lake.

To the union of Haagen Paulson and Mary Clemenson have been born six children: Carl, Benjamin (deceased), Martin, Peter, Emma and Gina. Carl Paulson, the first born, is a native of Rock county, Wisconsin, his birth having occurred on July 8, 1871. His education was received in the public

schools of Battle Lake, and he has always remained under the parental roof tree. Realizing the opportunities in the agricultural field, he engaged in that vocation at the close of his student days, and now operates a farm of two hundred acres. This two hundred acres is the major portion of the land belonging to his father, ten acres being retained by Haagen Paulson. The family are members of the Lutheran Free church, and are very active in the support of same. For sixteen years Haagen Paulson has been honored by the citizens of Eagle Lake township by his election to the office of supervisor, his term of service having covered a period of sixteen years.

MARTIN ERIKSON.

That Martin Erikson is, and has been, of service to the community in which he lives, is evidenced by the fact that he was appointed to act as constable and has served in that capacity for thirty-six years. He has also been a member of the township board for many years, and has discharged all duties connected with that office with dispatch and efficiency. Martin Erikson is one of six children born to the union of Christ Erikson and Annetta Peterson, and his birth occurred on March 23, 1855, in Norway. Christ Erikson was a native of Norway and immigrated to America, with his family, in 1856, locating eight miles east of Beloit, Wisconsin. While a resident of that state he was employed as a day laborer, but in 1872 he removed to Otter Tail county, Minnesota, where he purchased one hundred and fifty acres of land, under the homestead law, in section 22, Eagle Lake township. He and his wife remained on this place until his death, after which she resided with her son, Peter, on the adjoining farm. The names of their children follow: Ed, Martin, Peter, Anton and John. One daughter died in infancy.

Martin Erikson is indebted to the schools of Norway for the education he received, with the exception of three weeks of schooling obtained in America after his arrival here. At the age of seventeen years, and shortly after his arrival in Otter Tail county, he purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land under the homestead law and remained on this property for a period of nineteen years. In 1889 he removed to the present site and purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land, since adding two hundred acres, which measures three-quarters of a mile square. The first homestead has been sold since his location on the present place and, through energy and thrift, both places have been well improved. General farming and the breeding of purebred Short-horn cattle, Duroc-Jersey hogs and Percheron horses are the modes of production on this well regulated farm. In former years the breeding of Poland China hogs was a specialty, but the breeding of Duroc-Jerseys has been a greater financial success.

In 1875, Martin Erikson was united in marriage to Betsy Peterson, a

native of Norway and daughter of Elling Peterson, also a native of Norway. To this union have been born fifteen children: Anna, Carrie, Edward (deceased), Edward, Matilda, Hanna, Emma, Alfred, Julia, Selmer, Ella, Melvin, Clarence, Mabel (deceased) and Mabel. Martin Erikson and his family are devout members of the Norwegian Lutheran Free church, and are very active in the support of this denomination. Betsy (Peterson) Erikson was reared on the farm adjoining the one of which Martin Erikson is the owner. Martin Erikson has been very successful as a farmer and as a citizen, and has many friends among the inhabitants of Otter Tail county.

HANS JENSEN.

Hans Jensen was born in Denmark, January 17, 1855, the son of Martin and Maria (Christiansen) Jensen, both of whom lived and died in their native country.

Martin Jensen was a miller by trade and served in the War of 1848. He and his wife were the parents of three children, namely, Hans, the subject of this sketch; Anna, who died young, and Adolph, who went away on a sailing vessel as a sailor and who was never again heard of. Hans became a sailor just after his confirmation at the age of fourteen, sailing the Atlantic Ocean and North Sea. Traveling by steamboat and sailing vessels he made from ten to twelve trips to America and finally in 1873 decided to live here. He worked as a sailor up and down the coast and on the Great Lakes. Starting from Duluth, he worked on farms and drifted southward and in 1902 arrived in this county. Liking the looks of the land, he bought one hundred and sixty acres of land in Eastern township where he still lives. This is in the northwest quarter of section 32. At the time of the purchase it was covered with timber. The land has been cleared and cultivated and on it stand a number of good, substantial, modern buildings. Mr. Jensen is a well-known breeder of purebred White Leghorn chickens and of graded Holstein cattle and Poland China hogs.

Mr. Jensen has been twice married, his first wife being Carrie Sophia Thorsen, a native of Denmark, and to her he was married in St. Paul. She had come to America and located in that city in 1882. She died in 1890 leaving one daughter, two older children, Ophelia and Arthur having died in infancy. Vivian, the remaining daughter, was born in 1887. She is a violinist, having received her early training from her father, who started her on her musical career at the age of six. He modestly calls himself a "fiddler." Later Vivian received her musical education at St. Paul and Minneapolis. In the former city she was graduated from the high school and later attended college. She now has her own studio in Silver City, New Mexico, and has attained such prominence as to fill musical engage-

ments all over the country. Among these was her successful appearance at the fair in San Francisco in 1915. After the death of his first wife, Mr. Jensen, in 1892, married Minnie Schroeder, who was born in Germany and who came to this country with her parents in 1866 when she was only two years of age. This family are affiliated with the Lutheran church in which they take an active part.

Mr. Jensen has been painstaking, industrious, energetic and frugal, and has earned all the good fortune that has come his way.

ADOLPH JACOBS.

Adolph Jacobs was born in Carver county, Minnesota, April 1, 1860, the son of Mathias and Mary (Bock) Jacobs, who were natives of Germany, where they lived until the year 1849, and then came to America, locating in Dalgren township, Carver county, Minnesota, where Mathias Jacobs secured employment on the farm of a man named Gephart, who made terms with the elder Jacobs, that should he work on the farm for a period of two years, that at the end of this time Mathias Jacobs would be given a farm of one hundred and sixty acres of land in the township; but after working for the two years Mr. Jacobs learned that the land to be given was not owned by his employer, but that it would be necessary to buy the land from the United States government, paying for it the sum of one dollar and twenty-five cents per acre, a thing which Mathias Jacobs was able to do only as the result of his fiancée coming with sufficient money to purchase the land.

Adolph Jacobs was not yet three years of age when the Indian massacre of 1862 occurred, the Jacobs family escaping in an old ox-cart, to which a cow was attached behind, making their way to Chaska, Minnesota, from where the women and children were sent to Ft. Snelling, Minnesota, while the adult male members of the community remained to fight the ravaging Indians in the district. Later, after the capture of the Indians, at which Mathias Jacobs was present, the family of the elder Jacobs returned to Carver county, Minnesota, where he farmed on his original homestead of one hundred and sixty acres of land, a place to which he later added two hundred and forty acres of land. In 1877 he made a trip to Otter Tail county and bought twelve hundred and five acres of land in sections 7 and 23, in Dora township, land for which Mathias Jacobs paid the sum of fifty-seven cents per acre, purchasing this land from the Northern Pacific Railway Company. Mathias and Mary Jacobs were the parents of seven children, Joseph, Andrew, Adolph, John, Henry, Phoebe and Anna. Mathias Jacobs and wife were communicants of the Catholic church.

Adolph Jacobs received his education in the public schools of Carver

county, Minnesota, where he attended classes for three months, and later in the German Catholic School, after which he helped on the farm of his father in Carver county, and then in the year 1878, with his father, Adolph Jacobs drove with four oxen and a wagon, together with sixteen head of cattle, to Otter Tail county, Minnesota, the journey requiring fourteen days. On their arrival in Otter Tail county the Jacobs family found but three settlers in Dora township, where they located, and where they proceeded to clear the land and prepare it for cultivation, building for a home only rude houses and for outbuildings sheds were made to serve the purpose of shelter for the stock and provisions. Adolph Jacobs, with the other male members of the family, devoted the winter months to the making of railway ties, the money earned being used for the payment of taxes and other necessary expenses, until such a time as the farm land could be cultivated to the point of a satisfactory income. During the fifteen years that Adolph Jacobs lived on the home in Dora township, he succeeded in clearing more than one hundred and ninety-five acres of land, bringing it to a good state of cultivation.

In the year 1901, Adolph Jacobs moved to Pelican township, Otter Tail county, where he invested in one hundred and sixty acres of land which he has extensively improved and which he has highly cultivated until it is among the desirable places of the township for general agricultural pursuits.

During the year 1881, Adolph Jacobs was married to Geneva Bear, who was born in Dahlgren township, Carver county, Minnesota, the daughter of Gotlieb and Victoria (Oniser) Bear, natives of Germany. To the marriage of Adolph and Geneva Jacobs have been born nine children, Emma Mary, Bertha, Edward, Anna, Johnnie, William, Irvin, Ella Clara and James Adolph.

Gotlieb and Victoria Bear, in the year 1850, left their homes in Germany and came to America, where after their marriage in the city of St. Paul, Minnesota, Gotlieb Bear homesteaded a claim in Carver county, Minnesota, and later, in the year 1879, he bought a section of land located in Dora township, from the Northern Pacific Railway Company, which he farmed for some time and then he erected the first store building in Dora township, establishing there the first stock of general merchandise, a business in which he was engaged until the year 1891, when he died. The children of Gotlieb and Victor Bear are William, of Frazee, Minnesota; Henry, of Carver county, Minnesota; Gotlieb, of Frazee, and Geneva, wife of the subject of this sketch. Of these children, William and Gotlieb were for many years well-known merchants of Frazee, they conducting there a general store until the year 1913, when they traded their stock for eight hundred acres of land in Otter Tail county.

Adolph Jacobs is a man who not only has overcome obstacles to the point of recognized success in the agricultural world, where he owns the farm on which he lives, together with one hundred acres of valuable land in Becker county, Minnesota, which he purchased in the year 1911, but Mr. Jacobs has served with notable efficiency on the township board and on the school board in the county, this with his ability and judgment in all public and general matters, as well as his work and effort for the promotion of the welfare and progress of the community, giving him a position as one of the leading and most valued citizens of the township.

WILLIAM JEZEWSKI.

William Jezewski, well-known merchant and prominent citizen of Richdale, Pine Lake township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, was born in the city of Chicago, December 23, 1877, the son of Nicholas and Katherine (Wardyn) Jezewski, both of whom were natives of Germany. Nicholas Jezewski was a picture-frame maker, of his native country, a business which he followed during his entire residence in Germany, with exception of three years when he served in the German army, having taken an active part in the Franco-Prussian War.

Nicholas Jezewski came to America in 1872 and located in Chicago, and in 1888 he moved to Pine Lake township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota. Here he bought one hundred and sixty acres of land, which he cleared and improved and a farm to which he later added land until he was the owner of three hundred and eighty acres of well improved and highly productive land. Nicholas Jezewski engaged in general agricultural pursuits until his death on February 9, 1907. Katherine, the wife of Nicholas Jezewski, died in the year 1905. Nicholas and Katherine Jezewski were the parents of the following children: Ignatius, John, William, Frank, Anna, Joseph, and four children who died in infancy. Nicholas Jezewski was a communicant of the Catholic church.

William Jezewski was educated at district school No. 130, of Pine Lake township, Otter Tail county, where he attended classes until a young man, and then he became a farmer working on the farms of the neighborhood, for five years, after which he went to Frazee, Minnesota, and became an employee of the Nicholas & Chisolm Lumber Company, remaining with this concern for about five years. Later William Jezewski came to Richdale, Otter Tail county, in March, 1909, and purchased the general merchandise store of John Hempel & Sons, William Jezewski a few months later being appointed postmaster of Richdale, an office which he has since occupied. In addition to the sale of general merchandise and machinery, at his place of business, Mr. Jezewski has for more than three years been a

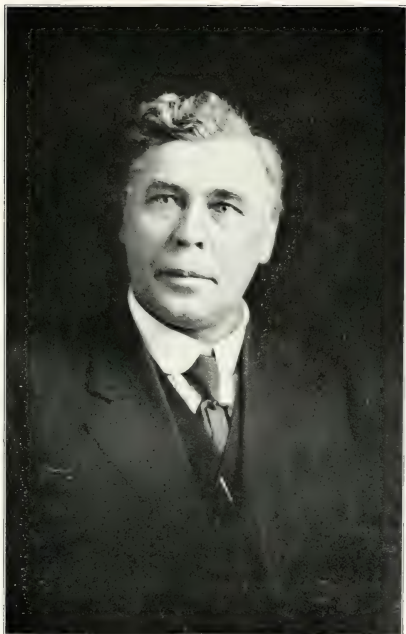
buyer of grain for the Perham Holding Company, as well as engaging in the operation of an elevator at Richdale, on his own account, and in the buying of potatoes.

During the year 1896, William Jezewski was married to Molly Smith, the daughter of Martin Smith and wife, Martin Smith having been a pioneer settler in Pine Lake township, where he lived as a farmer on one hundred and sixty acres of land. To the marriage of William and Molly Jezewski, six children have been born, Raymond, Elsie, Margaret, Martin, Mamie and Lettie. William Jezewski served his township as assessor, as justice of the peace, as school clerk and as village councilman, while he was a resident of Frazee, Minnesota.

MARTIN H. STANG.

Much of the civil and industrial progress of Minnesota is traced to the activities of the citizens of Norwegian birth or lineage who form a large element in her population. Among the representatives of this element in industrial progress, is Martin Stang, who for over thirty years has been a resident of Otter Tail county, and who is known throughout that section for his ability and influence in business activities. By his well-directed efforts and high principles, he has achieved a place of distinction in the county.

Martin H. Stang was born in Sarpsborg, Norway, on the 11th of August, 1867, and is the son of Hans and Gunhild Stang, also of Norway. The father's occupation was that of a farmer and although he was unusually skilled at the blacksmith's trade, he never followed that line of work as a profession. The immigration of Martin Stang in company with his uncle took place in 1885. They landed at Philadelphia and the same year they came to Otter Tail county and settled in Dane Prairie township. Being unfamiliar with the language and customs of the people of this country, the subject of this sketch worked at any employment available at that time. The second year of his life in America was spent at the blacksmith's trade. Although moderately successful at this line of work, Mr. Stang was not content to spend the remainder of his life at that occupation. He was ambitious to learn more of the American educational system and set at work to study conditions, a move which was a large factor in his success later in life. He attended school after leaving the blacksmith work, and devoted his entire attention to study. Before coming to Fergus Falls, which he has made his permanent residence, he taught school for three terms, during the winter months. For four or five years after he came to Fergus Falls he worked as a blacksmith until he was stricken ill with a severe attack of typhoid fever. The illness left his system in a very weak condition and upon his recovery he was not able to resume his former occupation. In



MARTIN H. STANG

partnership with Julius Ryan he engaged in the grocery business, on West Lincoln avenue, and after a year he sold out to his partner. For a short time following he worked in the furniture store of Mr. Woodham, and during that time became interested in fire insurance. This led to his permanent affiliation with the insurance business, to which he added life insurance and real estate. He has quite an extensive business in the buying and selling of houses.

Mr. Stang married Mattie Utne, the eldest daughter of Oline Utne, one of the progressive farmers of Dane Prairie township. Although no children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Stang, they have reared an adopted daughter, Annie Flaten, with all the affection of their noble characters and the daughter in return has proved most worthy of the devotion and advantages given her. She is a graduate of the Fergus Falls high school where she showed marked ability as a student. She took a normal course and is now teaching at Henning.

JOHN P. LUNDIN.

One of the pioneers of Otter Tail county was John P. Lundin, a man whose zeal and ability added much to the material prosperity of the county. Although he was born, educated and married in Sweden, Mr. Lundin spent the greater part of his life as a citizen of the United States, coming here in 1875. His wife, also a native of Sweden, was before her marriage Charlotta Holmstrom. Mr. Lundin homesteaded the farm where his family now live. He added one hundred and eighty acres to the one hundred and sixty originally purchased. Ambitious to have his country home well equipped, he erected a good substantial residence and other buildings necessary to carry on his farm work. He was a stone-mason during the majority of his working years, having learned the trade in Sweden. He erected the building at Northwestern College. He and his faithful wife were members of the Swedish Lutheran church. The eight children born to them are Curt, Alga, Emil, Gottfred, who was a student in Northwestern College; Edwin, Emelia, Victor and Emma.

Edwin Lundin, a fine progressive young farmer, attended the schools of Otter Tail county and spent two terms at Northwestern College, located at Fergus Falls. With the exception of the last two years before his father's death, when the son was employed near Ashby, he lived at home and was a valuable assistant on the farm, for his father having another occupation was required to be away from home much of the time. His father died on February 18, 1915, and since that time Edwin has had entire charge of the farm.

John P. Lundin was one of the best-known workmen in his occupation in this vicinity, and in all of the relations of life proved himself to be a man of estimable qualities. An honest workman, he was fair in all of his

business dealings; a God-fearing man, who sought to obey the Golden Rule; a patient father, he sacrificed much for his family; a kindly, considerate neighbor, he won and kept many friends.

AUGUST PETERSON.

Although deprived of early educational advantages, August Peterson has become a man known and respected by the citizens of the town near which he has farmed for many years. He was born in Sweden on November 26, 1854, where both of his parents, John and Catherine (Magnuson) Peterson died, the former when August was only five years of age, and the latter over twenty years ago. The children born to them were Skiler, John, August and Sarah.

August Peterson attended school in his native land and came to this country in the spring of 1874. He came directly to Otter Tail county where he bought what was then known as railroad land situated in Eastern township. It extended over a quarter section. Retaining the farm, he worked as a lumberman on the St. Clair river for eighteen years. Leaving this work he resumed farming, a line of industry which he has followed up to the present time. On his splendid farm of two hundred and twenty acres he has erected many well constructed buildings.

Alma Lindquist, a native of Sweden, became Mrs. August Peterson in 1892. She is the daughter of Gust and Ann Linquist, natives of Sweden, who now occupy a farm in Spruce Hill township, Douglas county, Minnesota. The children born to Mr. and Mrs. Peterson are Helma, Hilda, Edward, Winfred and Dora. They are members of the Swedish Lutheran church. Mr. and Mrs. Peterson have won many friends in the county and their home is noted for its hospitality.

ANDREW DAHL.

Andrew Dahl, who has succeeded as a farmer and stockman of Everts township, Otter Tail county, is a native of this township, born on the farm which he now owns in section 17, on May 18, 1882.

Mr. Dahl was educated in the public schools and has always been engaged in farming. He owns the old homestead, which his father purchased on coming to this county. Mr. Dahl is the son of Ole H. and Karen (Glende) Dahl, both of whom were born in Norway, the former in 1847 and the latter in 1848. They came separately to Otter Tail county, Minnesota, in 1871, were married in 1873 and immediately thereafter purchased the farm, which their son, Andrew, now owns and occupies. Mr. Dahl's father died in 1882. His mother is still living and resides with her

son, Andrew. Andrew Dahl is youngest of three children born to his parents, the others being Mettie, the widow of Lewis Hansen, and Sophia, who is deceased.

Andrew Dahl is a general farmer and stockman. His father, during his lifetime, built a house which is still standing on the place and which is now used by the family. Mr. Dahl built a good barn in 1904 and has made other improvements on the farm.

In 1905 Andrew Dahl was married in Otter Tail county, Minnesota, to Josephine Hansen, who was the daughter of Peter and Christina (Henry) Hansen, the former of whom was born in Denmark, April 29, 1843, and the latter born in Norway, April 4, 1852. Peter Hansen's parents were Hans and Mary Hansen, both of whom were natives of Denmark and who died in that country. Mrs. Peter Hansen's parents were Henry and Mary Peterson. Peter Hansen was educated in the public schools of Denmark and emigrated to America, settling in Portland, Maine, May 2, 1868. A little later he moved to Canada and for about six months worked in a brick yard at Detroit, Michigan. From that city, he immigrated to Oshkosh, Wisconsin, where he lived for one year and then moved to Iowa, where he rented a farm. He was not able to make any money and left Iowa. He came to Minnesota in 1871 and was employed by the Northern Pacific railroad near Duluth. From Duluth he moved to St. Cloud and received employment from the Great Northern railroad, taking a homestead in Otter Tail county. Peter Hansen and John Little were the first white settlers in Girard township. Peter Hansen took eighty acres of land, but later gave it up and took a claim in Gorman township. After living in that township for ten years, he sold out and purchased a farm in Everts township of one hundred and sixty acres, which he now owns. Here he has erected magnificent buildings. In 1905 he moved to Battle Lake and built the house in which he now lives. He also has a farm of two hundred and forty acres in Girard township and has given forty acres of land to a son. He has a summer residence on Battle Lake, and a resort which he established in 1913. Peter Hansen assisted in the organization of the school district in his neighborhood and served on the school board for about seven years. He was assessor for Everts township and the first assessor of Battle Lake village.

Mr. Hansen's wife, who before her marriage was Christina Henry, and to whom he was married in 1873, moved to Goodhue county, Minnesota, in 1870, and the next year to Otter Tail county, Minnesota. She died in this county, after having been the mother of six children, Jennie, who is the wife of E. M. Nelson, of Freeburg, Houston county; Henry, who married Josie Olsen, of Everts township; Matilda, who is the wife of Hans Nelson, of Otter Tail county; Josephine, who was the wife of Mr. Dahl, but is now

OTTER TAIL COUNTY, MINNESOTA.

: Dewey, who married Emma Lee and lives on his father's farm
 township, and Edward, who died in infancy. Peter Hansen is a
member of the Lutheran church.

By this marriage to Josephine Hansen, Andrew Dahl was the father of
two children, Esther Luella Christine, who was born on December 26, 1906,
and Joseph, who was born on October 8, 1908. The mother of these chil-
dren died on October 8, 1908.

MICHAEL DERTINGER.

A representative of one of the influential and prominent families of
Otter Tail county, Minnesota, and exemplifying the sturdy characteristics
and best traditions of his native land, Michael Dertinger has made a name
for himself in the ranks of those who live up to the highest ideals of citizen-
ship. He has long been identified with the lumber interests in the county
in which he resides and has achieved success through his own individual
effort. He was born on the 12th of August, 1872, in Buffalo, New York,
the son of Andrew Dertinger and Barbara (Hepper) Dertinger, both of
whom were natives of Germany, and came from Eltmann, Bavaria, to
America in the spring of 1872 and went to Buffalo, New York.

Andrew Dertinger stopped for a few months in New York before
coming to Otter Tail county, Minnesota, where he made his home. In the
fall of 1872, he established his home in Otter Tail county, where he became
a successful agriculturist and a valued citizen. His first place of residence
in the county was in the township of Perham where he homesteaded forty
acres of land near St. Joseph's church. He sold this land and moved to
eighty acres in Edna township, where he spent some time before going to
a farm in Silver Leaf township, Becker county. He sold the farm in 1904
and moved to Frazee, where he passed away. His death occurred March 4,
1913, aged seventy years, two months and fourteen days, cause of death
being heart trouble and a complication of diseases from which he suffered
for two years. He left a wife and thirteen children to mourn his loss. The
funeral service was held at the Sacred Heart church and the remains were
interred in the Catholic cemetery at Frazee. His first wife, Barbara Dertinger,
died in the year 1890, at the age of forty-two, and was laid at rest in St.
Joseph's cemetery, Otter Tail county. By his first marriage the following
children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Dertinger: John, Fred, Michael, who
is the subject of this sketch; Elizabeth, Regina, Andrew, Katherine, Chris-
tine and Anna. After the death of his first wife, Mr. Dertinger married
Katherine Krep, who became the mother of the following children: Joseph,
Stephen, Frank, Sophia and Susie.

The early educational training of Michael Dertinger was received in

the common schools of Perham township and in St. Joseph's parochial school. Upon completing the course offered in the elementary schools he learned the carpenter's trade and in that field of endeavor became a workman of unusual skill. He remained occupied with this trade for twelve years. In the spring of 1903 he became manager of the Marcel Lumber Company, and in this capacity has shown marked business ability and executive qualities. He is now a member of the firm, and in Perham where the office is located, on the north side of the Northern Pacific railroad tracks, near the freight depot, is looked upon as a reliable authority in lumber affairs.

In 1899, Michael Dertinger was united in marriage to Barbara Weis, the daughter of Joseph Weis, Sr., a native of Ohio, who came to Rush Lake in the year 1866 as a young man and married Magtana Doll, in August, 1865, and died March 4, 1916, age seventy-three. To this union the following children have been born: Gregory, Loretta, Rufina, Sylvester and Andrew. Mr. and Mrs. Dertinger are members of the St. Henry Catholic church. In his political activities Mr. Dertinger is a member of the Republican party. He has membership in the Eagles lodge, the Knights of Columbus and the St. Henry Society of Minnesota.

ALBERT C. TOMHAVE.

Albert C. Tomhave was born on December 16, 1878, in Fergus Falls township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, the son of John and Anna M. (Mier) Tomhave, both natives of Germany. Albert C. Tomhave received his education in the schools of Fergus Falls township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, and upon the completion of same, assisted his father with the work on the home place until twenty-five years of age. At the age of twenty-three his father purchased one hundred and twenty acres of land, in Buse township, Otter Tail county, with the intention of selling it to Albert when he should reach twenty-five years of age. Upon reaching that age Albert C. Tomhave purchased the place but immediately re-sold it and rented a farm, which he operated for one year. He then purchased eighty acres of land of his father, located in Fergus Falls township, and has increased his holdings until he now has one hundred and sixty acres, all well improved. His original purchase was made in 1905 and the entire farm is devoted to general agriculture and stock raising. The barn was built in 1907 and the home in 1912. Beside the general line of production, a herd of fifteen dairy cows is kept.

In December, 1909, Albert C. Tomhave was united in marriage to Myrtle Raprager and they are the parents of two children: Erma, who was born on October 23, 1910, and Roland, who was born on June 22,

1912. Myrtle (Rapraeger) Tomhave is the daughter of William and Nina A. (Blodget) Rapraeger, and her birth occurred on December 18, 1887. Albert C. Tomhave and his wife attend the German Evangelical church. Politically, he is independent, and is at present overseer of roads for district No. 5. In partnership with his brother he owns and operates a threshing outfit and feed grinder.

CORNELIUS HUSEBY.

Cornelius Huseby was born in Douglas county, Minnesota, May 22, 1868, the son of Ole H. and Kari Huseby, who were natives of Norway, in which country Ole H. Huseby was a farmer until the year 1864, when he came to America, and located in Winneshiek county, Iowa, where he lived for about two years, then going to Douglas county, Minnesota, he lived there about one year, after which he came to Otter Tail county, Minnesota, homesteading one hundred and sixty acres of land in Eagle Lake township, a place where at that time few people lived, it being located one hundred and thirty miles from the nearest mill to which the farmers might take their grain. With a determined spirit and with hardy perseverance this pioneer farmer cleared his land and broke up the sod, cultivating his land and improving his place until it was among the desirable farms of the community, on which to pursue his general agricultural pursuits. Ole H. Huseby was twice married and to each marriage were born six children, Cornelius Huseby, the subject of this sketch, being a son of his first wife.

Cornelius Huseby was educated in the common schools of Eagle Lake township, Otter Tail county, attending the first school to be conducted in the district, the classes of which were taught in a log cabin which was located near where the home of Mr. Huseby now stands. Following his school days Cornelius Huseby worked on the farm of his father, afterward taking possession of the farm where he now lives engaged in general agricultural pursuits and in the raising of good grade live stock.

Cornelius Huseby was first married to Emma Hernes, of this union twins, Mervin and Mabel, being born. Afterward Cornelius Huseby was married to Martha Kulberinson, to this marriage two children, Cora and Josephine, being born. At a later time Cornelius Huseby was married to Ragnild Gulliksen, a marriage to which were born the following children: Elmer, Matilda, Hildor, Myrtle, Evline and Walton. Mr. Huseby and his family are members of the Norwegian Lutheran church, they taking an active and leading part in the work and worship of that congregation. Politically, Cornelius Huseby is an ardent Republican and although he has taken no especial part in the political or official life of the community he is

known as a citizen whose efforts, and whose counsel and judgment in party and official matters, is of value in the solution of local problems and in the promotion of township and county interests.

CARL L. WALSETH.

Carl L. Walseth was born on May 3, 1869, in Norway, and was reared in that country and also received his education there. He is the son of Ingebret and Maren (Nosum) Walseth, both natives of Norway, who lived and died in that country. Ingebret Walseth was a carpenter and followed that vocation until his death in 1874. Two children were born to the union of Ingebret Walseth and his wife and their names follow: Carl L. and Bennie, who live in St. Olaf township, Otter Tail county, and Minneapolis, respectively.

Carl Walseth is indebted to the schools of his native land for the education, which he received, following which he was engaged in various kinds of employment but principally as a farm hand and sailor. He immigrated to America in 1889, and immediately located in St. Olaf township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, where he purchased the farm on which he still lives. This place is devoted to general farming and stock raising and is well improved. In March, 1906, Carl L. Walseth was united in marriage to Anna Ronningen, who was born in 1875 and is the daughter of Ole Ronningen, and to them have been born these children: Geneva O., Ernest M., Olga M., Carl U., and twins who have not yet been christened.

TORKEL OLSON.

Torkel Olson is a native of Norway and his birth occurred on September 29, 1845. He is the son of Ole Torkelson and Betsey Olson, both natives of Norway, who immigrated to America in 1856. Ole Torkelson was employed as a day laborer while a resident of his native land but engaged in agricultural pursuits during his residence in the United States. For one year he was located in Houston county, Minnesota, but removed from there to Winneshiek county, Iowa, and thence to Douglas county, Minnesota, where he purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land, under the homestead law, on which he established a home where he still resides.

Torkel Olson is indebted to the schools of his native country and, also, to the schools of Iowa, for the education which he received. He was eleven years of age when he immigrated to America with his parents and only about seventeen, when he enlisted in Company D, Sixth Regiment, Iowa Volunteer Infantry. This regiment was in many skirmishes with the Indi-

ans. notable of which was the battle at White Stone hills, in South Dakota, in which he was severely injured. After the close of the Civil War, Torkel Olson purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land in Douglas county, Minnesota, under the homestead law, which he held for three years and then removed to Otter Tail county, Minnesota. Soon after his arrival in this county he was given a farm of one hundred and seventy-six acres, by Jacob Torkelson, and he still resides on this place which he has since improved and put in the best of condition. He was united in marriage to Carrie Ingebretson and they are the parents of nine children, whose names follow: Ole, Ingebret, Clara, Bennie, Tilda, Henry, Thelma, Sarerno and Dena. The family are members of the Norwegian Lutheran church and are active in its support. In his political faith, Torkel Olson is a stanch Republican.

CARL HANSON.

Carl Hanson is the son of Andrew and Martha (Elius) Hanson, both natives of Norway. Andrew Hanson was born on August 11, 1832, and the birth of his wife occurred on July 4, 1839. They were united in marriage on October 11, 1860, and immigrated to America in 1863, locating in Fillmore county, Minnesota, until 1865. They then removed to Grant county, Minnesota, where they remained one year, in 1866 choosing St. Olaf township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, as their permanent home and removing to that place. It was here that their son, Carl, was born on November 24, 1873, and here he has since remained. Andrew Hanson was the first to locate in this neighborhood and the roads consisted only of Indian trails. There were also elk in abundance and to witness them traveling in droves was almost an everyday occurrence. During the first three years of their sojourn in St. Olaf township, Cold Springs, Minnesota, was the nearest trading point and flour was twenty dollars per barrel and potatoes were five dollars per bushel. The place was soon cleared and under cultivation, for no time could be wasted with facilities so poor and provisions so high. Andrew Hanson not only cleared the farm but put on all of the improvements and added to his holdings, until the farm was increased to one hundred and sixty acres. The names of the children born to Andrew and Martha Hanson are: Jeh, Matilda, Fred, Lewis, Anna, John F. and Carl. The family are all members of the Norwegian Lutheran church. Andrew Hanson is a stanch Republican.

Carl Hanson received his education in the schools of St. Olaf township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, and upon completion of his studies assisted his father with the work on the home place and has continued to do so until the present time, although he owns eighty acres, independently, on which he does general farming and stock raising. He makes a specialty of breeding

thoroughbred Percheron horses. His farm of eighty acres was purchased in 1895. On March 29, 1915, Carl Hanson was united in marriage to Carolina B. Holt, daughter of Iver Holt.

CARL LARSON RYG.

Carl Larson Ryg was born on June 23, 1868, in Norway, and is the son of Martin Larson Ryg and Matea Christenson (Olson) Ryg, both natives of Norway. They immigrated to America in September, 1879, and located on the farm which is now the property of their son, Carl Larson Ryg, on April 24, 1880. The homestead was covered with heavy timber and entirely unimproved and the struggle for an existence was a difficult proposition indeed, but with thrift and the endurance, which only the pioneers knew, the place was cleared and put under cultivation and a comfortable home made. Martin Larson Ryg did general farming and stock raising until his death on January 5, 1908, at which time Carl Larson Ryg assumed full charge of the place and has farmed it on an independent basis. Matea Christenson (Olson) Ryg now lives with her son Carl. The names of the children born to the union of Martin Larson Ryg and his wife follow: Carl, Amie, Anna, Hannah who died at the age of four years; Inga, Ovedia, Ranga. Both parents were devout members of the Norwegian Lutheran church.

Carl Larson Ryg received a meager education in the schools of St. Olaf township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, following which he assisted his father with the work on the home place, where he has since remained. In 1906, he purchased forty acres of land for himself, located in St. Olaf township, on which he follows general agriculture and stock raising. Religiously, he is a devout member of the Norwegian Lutheran church and in his political affiliations is allied with the Republican party.

OLE E. BUSKRUD.

Ole E. Buskrud is a native of Norway and was born on March 16, 1857. He is the son of Elof and Emma M. Buskrud, both natives of Norway. Elof Buskrud was a farmer and followed that vocation until his death. He was the father of eight children, three of whom are residents of the United States.

Ole E. Buskrud is indebted to the schools of his native land for the education which he received. After the completion of his student days, he followed farming for a short time, later serving as an employee of a railroad company and then he became a laborer in the nickel mines, where he worked until his immigration to America in the spring of 1870. Upon his arrival in the United States, he immediately located in St. Olaf township,

Otter Tail county, Minnesota, where he remained for a period of five years, finally removing to Clay county, Minnesota. While a resident of Clay county he purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land, under the homestead law, and cultivated that place for twelve years. He was also united in marriage, while a resident of that county, to Gunil Jacobson and they became the parents of seven children whose names follow: Helmar, Edwin, Emma (deceased), Minnie, Olauas, Edwin (deceased) and Emma.

During the family's sojourn in Clay county, the mother of these children passed away, after which Mr. Bruckrud returned to St. Olaf township, Otter Tail County, Minnesota, where he has since remained. Some time after the death of his first wife, Ole E. Buskrud was united in marriage to Betsey Hola and they are both members of the Norwegian Lutheran church. The farm consists of one hundred and eighty acres which he devotes to general agriculture and stock raising and keeps a dairy herd of ten cows. Politically, Ole E. Buskrud is affiliated with the Republican party.

SEVERT H. GULDSETH.

Severt H. Guldseth is the son of Huldor Guldseth who led a very interesting life, in spite of the fact that he was engaged in agricultural pursuits and was the father of a large family. Huldor Guldseth was born in Norway and had the true spirit of the hardy Norsemen. His marriage to Segred Garberg was solemnized in his native land and shortly afterward they immigrated to America and effected a temporary residence in Spring Grove, Minnesota. In 1863, Huldor Guldseth enlisted in the Civil War and served his adopted country until the close of the conflict. In 1867 he removed to St. Olaf township Otter Tail county, Minnesota, and purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land, under the homestead law, and farmed this land until his death. When he first located in this township, St. Cloud, Minnesota, was the nearest trading point. Mr. Guldseth made two trips back to his native country and several journeys to the state of Washington. On one of these trips to the Northwest, the return was made with a team from the state of Montana. He also made a trip to Canada with a team and upon his return was for two days without water, while crossing a desert in Montana. He was the father of these children whose names follow: Ed, Severt H., Gustav, Emil, who died at the age of thirteen; Joseph, Henry, who died at the age of twelve; Isabelle and Hilda. Huldor Guldseth and his wife were members of the Norwegian Lutheran church and active in its support. Huldor Guldseth was a staunch follower of the Republican party.

Severt H. Guldseth was born on August 15, 1873, on the homestead in St. Olaf township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, where he has since remained. He is indebted to the schools of his native locality for the edu-

cation which he received, following which he assisted his father with the work on the home place and has continued to devote his time and attention to general farming and stock raising. He has razed the old buildings and erected new ones and has improved the place to the best of his ability, considering the many obstacles which he has had to overcome. In addition to the arduous duties which devolve upon him in connection with the cultivation of his farm, he is engaged in house moving, in the adjoining towns, and has followed this vocation for a period of fifteen years. The farm consists of one hundred and sixty acres. In 1893 Severt H. Guldseth was united in marriage to Renda Olson, daughter of Ole A. Olson. They are devout members of the Norwegian Lutheran church and are very active in the support of this denomination. Severt H. Guldseth is a strong Democrat and has the courage of his convictions, whether political or religious.

ALFRED MALMGREN.

Alfred Malmgren, farmer and stock raiser of Eastern township, Otter Tail county, was born on November 10, 1872, at the place where he still resides, and is a son of Nels and Anna (Monson) Malmgren. His education was obtained at the public schools of the district, and as a young man, he began farming for himself on the place which he now owns. In 1900 he bought one hundred and sixty acres in Parker's Prairie township. In 1914, he bought and paid for his present home place, consisting of one hundred and seventy acres, and follows general farming and stock raising, and for the past fifteen years has made a specialty of buying and selling cattle, and for the past two years has done the shipping for the Farmers Equity Company. Mr. Malmgren has put valuable improvements on his place, including a splendid barn, erected in 1915. Mr. Malmgren is a public spirited young farmer, and an earnest member of the Swedish Lutheran church, to which he contributes liberally. Politically, he is an independent voter.

Nels and Anna (Monson) Malmgren were both born in Sweden, where they followed farming until 1872, when they emigrated to America, stopping at Sauk Center, where they kept a boarding camp during their first summer in this country, in connection with which means of livelihood, Mr. Malmgren was employed on the railroad, and in the fall of that year, they came to Otter Tail county, and settled in Eastern township, where they took up a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres, which place is now owned by their son. Mr. Malmgren improved his home place and followed general farming and stock raising, spending the remainder of his life here. To Nels and Anna (Monson) Malmgren were born seven children, Johanna, Magnus, Alfred, Ida, Mary, Elof, and Selma M.

Alfred Malmgren was united in marriage, in 1905, with Jennie Spoden,

which union has been blest with five children, Almer, Edwin (deceased), Leonard, Edith and Fern. Mr. Malmgren has lived and labored to worthy ends, and is one of the sterling and substantial men of his community, where he is respected by all who have the pleasure of his acquaintance.

JOHN AUGUST PETERSON.

John August Peterson, of Parkers Prairie township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, was born in Sweden, March 21, 1849, the son of Peter and Mary (Carlson) Anderson. John August Peterson lived in that country where he received his education in the public schools, until the year 1869, when he came to America, going to the city of Duluth, Minnesota, where he was employed at railway work between the cities of Duluth and St. Paul, Minnesota, for about one year and a half. In 1872 he came to Otter Tail county, Minnesota, homesteading one hundred and sixty acres of land in Parkers Prairie township, a farm which he leased out while he worked at farm work through the states of Minnesota and the Dakotas, and then about the year 1880, returned to his land, which he improved extensively and where he has since lived as one engaged in general agricultural pursuits. After some years of unbroken success as a farmer, John August Peterson added forty acres of adjoining land to his farm, land which later he deeded to his son, Alfred, who is well known among the farmers of the township and county.

John August Peterson and his wife Charlotta (Johnson) Peterson are the parents of two children, Alfred and Edwin. Mr. Peterson and his family are members of the Swedish Lutheran church, they taking an important place in the work and worship of this congregation in the community. In politics John August Peterson is an ardent Republican.

WILLIS A. SMITH.

Willis A. Smith, general farmer and stock raiser, Parkers Prairie township, Otter Tail county, was born on May 3, 1881, in Steuben county, New York, a son of Azariah and Abbis (Burlingame) Smith. His early education was received at the public schools of his native state, and after coming with his parents to Otter Tail county, in 1869, continued his studies in the public school of Parkers Prairie township, this school having a sod roof and earthen floor. After leaving school, he assisted his father with the farm work, taking entire charge of the place at the age of eighteen years, in 1878, and managing it from that time on, during the first year and a half of which time he worked out in order to obtain sufficient funds with which to keep things going during the famous grasshopper year. In 1893, Mr. Smith

became the owner of one hundred and twenty acres of his father's homestead, which he has owned and farmed ever since. In the fall of 1895, he bought the farm where he now lives, consisting of eighty acres, adjoining the old homestead, and has lived here ever since. He has erected practically all the buildings, and follows general farming and stock raising, giving special attention to the breeding of purebred Shorthorn cattle, of the milking strain, blooded Poland China hogs and brown Leghorn chickens. His farm is known as the "Cedarvale Farm," which is splendidly equipped with good buildings. Politically, Mr. Smith is a strong Republican, while in religion he is an earnest member of the Baptist church, in the work of which he takes an active interest, having long served as choir leader and trustee. Fraternally, he is allied with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. He has served as chairman of the board of supervisors of Parkers Prairie township.

Azariah Smith, father of the subject of this sketch, was born on January 16, 1829, at Deerfield, Tioga county, Pennsylvania, and his wife, Abbie (Burlingame) Smith, was born on March 17, 1833, and was a native of the same place. Mr. Smith was educated at the public schools of Deerfield, Pennsylvania, and as a young man went to Woodhull, Steuben county, New York, and settled on a timber farm, living there from 1857 to 1867, and while hauling lumber from a mill to the town, he and his team went through a bridge into the river, and he was so injured that he was unable to continue his farm work for two years. He had another misfortune in the loss of a flock of fine thoroughbred sheep, in which he had invested in 1867, caused by disease. This loss so crippled him financially that he left for the west, coming to Parkers Prairie, Otter Tail county, in 1869, spending the first winter here with his brother, Cyrus P. Smith. On this trip he brought with him his eldest son, the remainder of the family following in May of the next year. He took up a homestead of one hundred and twenty acres where he spent the remainder of his life, his death occurring on August 7, 1889. Azariah and Abbie (Burlingame) Smith were the parents of three children: Ellen, born on November 12, 1857; Sherman B., born on March 10, 1880, and died on December 23, 1908, and Willie A. His first wife died, and Mr. Smith was then married to Eliza M. Mariner, by whom he had one child, Herbert A., born on January 27, 1866, and died on January 21, 1903. Mr. Smith's second wife died on December 6, 1898. Politically, he was a Republican, and in religion a member of the Baptist church, in the choir of which he was leader for many years in both New York state and Otter Tail township, during which time he also officiated as deacon of the church.

Willis A. Smith was united in marriage, August 30, 1893, with Estella P. Bacon, by whom he has had the following children: Asa A., Beth, who

died at the age of nine years; Fernie F., Rudy, Alten and Donna. Mrs. Smith is a member of the Methodist church.

Mr. Smith is one of the busy men of Parkers Prairie township, but always manages to find time to be affable and agreeable to all with whom he comes in contact, and is a prominent citizen in the community honored by his residence.

NELS NELSON.

Nels Nelson, farmer, Eagle Bend, Eastern township, Otter Tail county, was born on February 15, 1866, in Sweden, and is a son of Nels and Ellen (Nelson) Christianson. His education was received at the public schools of Sweden, where, as a young man, he learned the blacksmith trade, which vocation he followed until he came to America in 1887, at which time he located at Litchfield, Minnesota, where he did mason work for six years. Mr. Nelson then lived in Minneapolis for about twelve years, after which he bought his present farm of one hundred and sixty acres, located in section 13, Eastern township, Otter Tail county. He moved to this farm in 1904, which has since been his home. Mr. Nelson grubbed this farm and put all the improvements on it, including good buildings of every description, and is now engaged in general farming and stock raising, keeping ten dairy cows. He is a member of Swedish Lutheran church.

Nels Christian, father of the subject of this sketch was born in Sweden. His wife Ellen (Nelson) Christianson, was also a native of that country, where they both lived and died. Mr. Christianson followed the vocation of a miller all his life.

Nels Nelson was united in marriage, June 30, 1894, with Emma Swanson, who was born on January 1, 1863, in Sweden. This union has been blest with seven children: Ellen, who died when two years of age; Hilma, Ellen, Algot, Hazel, Helmer, who died when three and one-half years old, and Gladys, all of whom became members of the Swedish Lutheran church.

WILSON E. NELSON.

Wilson E. Nelson, farmer and school teacher, Parkers Prairie, Minnesota, was born on June 10, 1875, in Parkers Prairie township, Otter Tail county, and is the son of John N. Nelson. His education was obtained in his native township, where he attended the public schools, after which he attended the Moorhead Normal School for one year, graduating at the Valparaiso Normal College, in 1901. He then entered the Minnesota State University for one year, and with the exception of three years he has been teaching in Otter Tail county. From 1905 to 1908 he was deputy clerk of

the court at Fergus Falls, and for the past two years has been teaching the district school near his home, and at the same time managing his farm of one hundred and sixty acres in Eastern township, where he does general farming. Politically, Mr. Nelson votes independently. Fraternally, he belongs to the Independent Order of Odd Fellows.

John N. Nelson, father of the subject of this sketch was born on March 22, 1842, in Sweden. His wife was Emma (Olson) Nelson. They came to America in 1868, stopping the first year in Wisconsin, and coming later, in 1869, to Otter Tail county, where he took up a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres, to which he afterward added forty acres more. His life for many years was one long, hard struggle, success finally crowning his efforts, and became less strenuous for him. He put all the improvements on his place, including good buildings of every necessary description. John N., and Emma (Olson) Nelson were married May 29, 1865. She was a daughter of Oke and Elizabeth Olson. This union was blest with six children: Ida, Wilson E., Axel, Elsie, Wilhelmina and Julia. John N. Nelson died on July 22, 1905. He was a deacon in the Swedish Lutheran church.

Gustav Nelson, the paternal grandfather, was a native of Sweden, as was also his wife, Martha. He was a farmer, and spent his entire life in his native land.

Wilson E. Nelson was united in marriage, December 25, 1906, with Lillie E. Olson, daughter of A. W. Olson. This marriage has been blest with three children, Ione, Ariel and Eloise. Mr. Nelson has long enjoyed the respect and esteem of a wide range of friends and acquaintances, and is one of the best-known men in school work in Otter Tail county.

CHARLES CHRISTIANSON.

Charles Christianson, farmer, Pelican Rapids, Otter Tail county, was born on February 28, 1874, in the township where he still resides, and is a son of Ole Christianson and Betsey (Haagenson) Christianson. His education was obtained at the public schools of Pelican Rapids, remaining on the home place until 1901, when he began farming for himself, at which time he bought a farm of eighty acres in Pelican township, and now follows general farming, managing his father's farm in connection with his own.

Ole Christianson, father of the subject of this sketch was born on December 15, 1842, in Norway, and is a son of Christ Telarson and his wife, Alice (Olson) Telarson. He was educated at the public schools of his native country, where he was married to Betsey Haagenson, also a native of Norway. He came to the United States in 1865, and located in Fillmore county, Minnesota. In 1870 he took up a homestead in Pelican township, Otter Tail county, where he still resides on his fine farm of one

hundred and sixty acres, giving his attention to stock raising and general farming. The children born to Ole and Betsey (Haagenson) Christianson are as follow: Molly, Charles, Levi, Theodore, Hilda (deceased), Anton and Oscar. Mrs. Christianson died on January 18, 1913.

Charles Christianson was united in marriage, November 4, 1898, with Sophia Wolbeck, who was born on November 27, 1869. This union has been blest with two children, Oden, born on September 28, 1899, and Birella, born on March 30, 1901.

Mr. Christianson is an earnest and attentive member of the Norwegian Lutheran church, to the work of which he contributes liberally. He also gives his unrestricted support to all questions pertaining to the advancement of his township, where he has a large circle of sincere friends.

OLE CHRISTIANSON.

Remaining true to the farming instincts of his ancestors, Mr. Christianson, whose abilities as an agriculturist have long been recognized in Pelican township, is the possessor of a fine, well-kept farm, and is one of the largest stock raisers in that locality.

Ole Christianson, farmer, Pelican township, Otter Tail county, was born on December 15, 1842, in Norway, and is a son of Christ Telarson and Alice (Olson) Telarson, his wife. His education was received at the public schools of Norway, and in 1865 he came to America, locating in Fillmore county, Minnesota, where he spent five years. In 1870, he came to Pelican township, where he took up a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres, dividing his time and attention between general farming and stock raising. Religiously, Mr. Christianson is an earnest member of the Norwegian Lutheran church.

Christ Telarson, father of the subject of this sketch was born in Norway, where he was united in marriage with Alice Olson, also a native of that country. They were farmers in their native land, and came to America in 1860, locating in Fillmore county, Minnesota, where they later became the owners of a large farm. They were the parents of seven children, Evan, Ole, Tonetta, Christena, Bernt, Nettie and John.

Ole Christianson was united in marriage with Betsey Haagenson, also a native of Norway. This union has been blest with seven children, Molly, Charles, Levi, Theodore, Hilda (deceased), Anton and Oscar. Mrs. Christianson died on January 18, 1913.

Mr. Christianson's life work has called for unceasing industry, and during his residence in Pelican township he has always been regarded as a man of upright principles, combined with broad views, few men in this locality being more favorably known.

EDWARD VAN ANTWERP.

Distinctly qualified as a man of action and leadership in public affairs, is Edward Van Antwerp, who has attained prestige as one of the representative members of the bar of his state, where he has been engaged in the practice of his profession for a number of years. The subject of this sketch was born in Cleveland, Minnesota, on the 20th of March, 1876, and is the son of William and Hattie (Tooker) Van Antwerp. His father was born in Jefferson county, Indiana, and his mother claimed the state of New York as her birthplace. William Van Antwerp is the son of John Van Antwerp, a native of Jersey City, New York, and of Elizabeth (Nycoff) Van Antwerp, who was born in Jefferson county, Indiana. The origin of the Van Antwerp family in America is traced back to John Van Antwerp, a native of Holland, who came to this country as early as 1754, where he established a shipping yard in Brooklyn, New York.

William Van Antwerp was educated in the public schools of Jefferson county, Indiana, and upon reaching the age of manhood learned the blacksmith's trade. He followed this occupation for a short while, when he realized that the work was too confining, and decided to take up farming as a means of regaining his health. He came to Minnesota and finally located in Otter Tail county, Minnesota, in 1900, purchasing a farm in Dora township, where he continues to live. In political affairs, Mr. Van Antwerp supports the principles of the Republican party, and his only son, Edward Van Antwerp, continues to follow the example set by his father, whom he joins in allegiance to the same political party.

Edward Van Antwerp has received the advantages of a liberal education. His early educational training was received in the public schools of Cleveland, Minnesota. After completing the normal course given in the Gustavus Adolphus College, at St. Peter, Minnesota, he entered the Drake University at Des Moines, Iowa, from which institution he was graduated in 1898. Following an ambition which was to become a student of the law, he entered the St. Paul College of Law at St. Paul, and completed the course there in 1905. Mr. Van Antwerp began the practice of his chosen profession in Dent, Minnesota, and after a short period of residence in that section of the county, left for Brownsville, Texas, where he practiced law for three years. In 1909 he left the South and returned to Dent, where he controls a large and representative law business. Edward Van Antwerp is a man possessing a strong personality, which has won friends in various circles of business life. Outside the compelling duties of the law practice, he has given attention to stock shipping and for a time was engaged in handling merchandise. From 1903 until 1906 he served as postmaster at Dent, but resigned the appointment to go to Brownsville, Texas.

The marriage of Edward Van Antwerp to Jennie Gow was solemnized in 1900, and to this union two children, Gladys and Dorothy, have been born. Mr. and Mrs. Van Antwerp take an active part in the social life of the community in which they live, where Mr. Van Antwerp is affiliated fraternally with the Yeoman's lodge.

ALEXANDER KITTS.

Alexander Kitts, who is now engaged in the real-estate business in Fergus Falls, was born on May 13, 1866, in Davenport, Iowa, and is the son of Thomas Jefferson and Margaret (Ross) Kitts.

Previous to his coming to Fergus Falls, in 1902, he had been engaged in the lumber business for sixteen years. After coming to Fergus Falls he gradually drifted into the real-estate business, and has been a close student of real-estate systems and methods. The real-estate business he has built up covers a large field and the interests of the enterprise carry him over a large territory, where he has gained the good will of all with whom he has come in contact.

Alexander Kitts married Rowena Hezzelwood, who was born in Ontario, Canada, the daughter of William and Elmina (Foster) Hezzelwood, members of one of the oldest and most highly respected families of Ontario. To Mr. and Mrs. Kitts have been born four children, Rex H., Ronald, Margaret R. and Mary R.

M. T. McMAHON.

Among the very oldest business men in Fergus Falls, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, is M. T. McMahon, who has been continuously engaged in the lumber business and in the retail sale of building materials for the past thirty-three years. He is a man who has taken a prominent part in the political life of Fergus Falls and community and has served as mayor, alderman and as member of the school board. He is also prominent in Masonic circles in this part of the state.

Mr. McMahon is a native of Rutland, Vermont, and is the son of Thomas and Margaret (Caffrey) McMahon, who were natives of Ireland. Thomas McMahon came alone to America when sixteen years old. Having begun when a young man to fortify himself for the battles of life, he developed and cultivated habits of industry and economy which crystalized into a very large measure of success. In his early life he was a well-to-do farmer, but after his marriage removed to Castleton, Vermont. Subsequently, he removed to Rutland, where he continued as a farmer.

M. T. McMahon was born and reared on the farm and grew to man-

hood in the wholesome, inspiring freedom of the farm. After he had reached maturity, he took up railroading and finally became a locomotive engineer. In 1882 Mr. McMahon came to Fergus Falls and in partnership with John S. Billings engaged in the retail lumber business. Mr. McMahon continued in partnership with Mr. Billings until the latter was elected sheriff of Otter Tail county in 1891. Since 1891 Mr. McMahon has had sole charge of the business and is the sole owner. He has always taken an active interest in the welfare of his adopted home, and has served it as mayor, alderman and as member of the school board, the latter position for a period of twenty-one years. He is prominent in the financial circles of Fergus Falls and vicinity, being a director of the Fergus Falls National Bank and vice-president of the Fergus Falls Casket Works.

By his marriage to Ann Mars there were born two children, namely: Royal, deceased, and Lynnford, who married Charles Kiplinger, of Freeport, Illinois. Mrs. McMahon died on July 16, 1900, and some years after her death Mr. McMahon was married to Minnie Ramsey, a native of the state of Pennsylvania.

Having joined the Masonic fraternity at Rutland, Vermont, Mr. McMahon later demitted to Corner Stone Lodge of Fergus Falls. He is a member of the York Rite Masons and also of the Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite Masons.

HERMAN KRUEGER.

The story of an obscure beginning to a triumphant end is that of the life of Herman Krueger, now the mayor of Perham, who at the age of fourteen years landed in America, alone and practically without prospects of finding business employment. The subject of this biographical sketch was born on the 4th of February, 1877, in Germany, and is the son of Carl and Amelia (Scholtz) Krueger, both of whom were born in Germany, where the father followed the occupation of a farmer during his life.

The early education of Herman Krueger was obtained in the schools of his native land, where he attended from the age of six to fourteen years. At the age of fourteen he crossed the Atlantic, and upon landing in this country came directly to Otter Tail county, Minnesota, where he found employment in Hobart township. He worked in this community from 1891 to 1898, when he came to Perham and purchased the dray business controlled by A. T. Newmann. Since that time he has found this line of work especially profitable. The subject of this sketch has been agent for the Standard Oil Company since 1898.

Aside from the immediate affairs of business, Mr. Krueger has always taken part in local politics, where he is a prominent figure in Republican

circles. His ability has been recognized and as a consequence he has served in many offices of public trust. He was a member of the city council for three years and has served as mayor of Perham since the election in 1913.

The marriage of Herman Krueger to Louisa Kiverbs, the daughter of Earnest Kiverbs, was solemnized in 1900. Mr. and Mrs. Krueger have become the parents of the following children: Minnie, who is deceased; George, Louisa, Otto, Henry and Edna. Mr. Krueger occupies a prominent place in the fraternal affairs of the community in which he lives and holds membership in the Masonic fraternity, the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, the Modern Woodmen and the Workman's Lodge.

JOSEPH BAUER.

Among the prominent industries of Fergus Falls, Minnesota, is the heating, ventilating, plumbing and sheet metal industry of which Joseph Bauer, a well-known resident of this city, is the proprietor. Mr. Bauer was born on February 9, 1869, in Lower Austria, eight miles from Vienna, and is the son of Carl and Anne (Dorn) Bauer. Mr. Bauer's father was a farmer while he lived in his native land, but, after emigrating with his family to America in 1879, he worked for the Great Northern Railway Company, in Fergus Falls, Barnesville and at Devils Lake. He lived at Devils Lake until his death in 1910. His wife died three years later, in 1913.

To Mr. and Mrs. Carl Bauer were born ten sons and three daughters, all of whom are living. Joseph Bauer, the subject of this sketch, received his early education in the public schools of Austria and, after coming to Fergus Falls, Minnesota, attended the night school in order to become conversant with the language and trade customs. He then worked for four years in the hardware store owned by M. Frankoviz, when he moved to Barnesville, Minnesota, and there learned the copper-smith's trade, working at the trade for two years. Subsequently, Mr. Bauer moved to Duluth, where he entered the employ of the Marshall-Well Hardware Company, working in the tin and sheet iron department. In Duluth, Mr. Bauer joined the Duluth band, well known for their splendid music and played the cornet and solo alto. He traveled with the band on their tour of the United States, and visited all of the large cities. After a period of three and one-half years in Duluth, Mr. Bauer returned to Fergus Falls and was employed by Howe brothers until they sold out.

Mr. Bauer then purchased the Lepper and Spikerman business, at which time Mr. Lepper and Mr. Bauer engaged in the hardware business, which they have conducted successfully for the past seven years. Finally, however, Doctor Metcalf became Mr. Bauer's partner in the hardware business under the firm name of Joseph Bauer & Company. At the end of eight

months they sold out to A. E. Luedke. Mr. Bauer then engaged in business on his own account, beginning in cornice and metal work, to which he has since added heating and ventilating, plumbing, etc., and in which he has been most successful.

Joseph Bauer was married to Berth Babst, a native of Wisconsin, who was born in November, 1877, and they are the parents of eleven children, as follow: Adelia L., Edwin C., Madeline, Alden J., Marie, Florian, Laurence, Helen, Rose, Loraine F. and Retta.

Mr. Bauer is a man of great musical talent and has sung in the choirs of various churches since he was sixteen years old. Fraternally, he is chief ranger of the Catholic Order of Foresters. The Bauer family are prominent members of the Catholic church of Fergus Falls.

JOHN SABBIN.

One of the citizens of Dora township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, known not only for his success as a farmer, but for his activity as a citizen serving in public office, is John Sabbin, who was born in Erie county, New York, on September 15, 1856, a son of John and Martha Sabbin, the former a native of Germany.

John Sabbin, Sr., came to America when a young man and located in Erie county, New York, where he lived until 1872 and then moved to Carver county, Minnesota. There he lived as a farmer for three years and then came to Otter Tail county in 1875, locating in Effington township, where he homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of land which he cultivated as a general farmer for the remainder of his days. John and Martha Sabbin were the parents of six children: Fred, John, Mary, Frank, Caroline and Katherine. The elder Sabbin and his wife were active members and workers of the German Lutheran church.

John Sabbin was educated in the public schools of Erie county, New York, after which he became a farmer engaging in this work near the home place. In 1872, with his father, Mr. Sabbin moved to Carver county, Minnesota, where he remained until 1878 and then came to Dora township, Otter Tail county, and homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of land in section 22. On this land John Sabbin placed the necessary improvements, thoroughly equipped his farm and has since been successfully engaged in general farming and the raising of good grade live stock.

During the year 1881 John Sabbin was married to Hulda Hoffman, who was born in Germany on January 22, 1862, and to this marriage have been born eight children: Minnie, Emma, Gottlieb, Elma, Katheryn, John, Ella and Fred. Mr. and Mrs. Sabbin are active members of the German Lutheran church in this community and are highly respected people of this

influential congregation, Mr. Sabbin now occupying the office as one of the trustees of this church.

John Sabbin has taken his place in the official life of Dora township, by serving with his usual ableness as a township supervisor for three years, and is a man who is known to be willing to give of his time and effort for the promotion of community affairs at all times.

EDWARD S. LAMSON.

The president of the Lamson-Gray Company, a well-known firm of general contractors of Fergus Falls, Minnesota, is Edward S. Lamson, who came with his parents to Carlisle, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, in 1881, and who has spent most of his life in this great county. Mr. Lamson was formerly a teacher in the public schools of Otter Tail county.

Edward S. Lamson was born on October 27, 1868, near Chatham, Columbia county, New York, a son of Marcus I. and Mary E. (Spencer) Lamson, the former of whom was born at Mt. Washington, Massachusetts, and was reared in the Bay state. After reaching manhood, Marcus I. Lamson moved about from place to place, living for a time in Columbia county, New York, and then in Sheffield, Connecticut. He also lived for a time in Barkhamstead, Connecticut. In 1881 the family moved to Carlisle, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, and it was in this county that Edward S. Lamson attended school, and there the family lived for seven years, or until 1888, when they returned to New York state and located at Spencertown. While living in the latter place Edward S. attended the State Normal School at Albany, New York. His father remained in New York state about a year and one-half, but on March 24, 1889, removed to Great Falls, Montana, where his death occurred the following September. His remains were buried in the cemetery at Great Falls.

In 1890 Edward S. Lamson and his mother came to Fergus Falls, where Mr. Lamson taught school for five years. Mr. Lamson's ambition was to attend the University of Minnesota, but while a student in the high school he saw an opportunity to engage in business. He purchased a store, and after converting it into a grocery, operated it for seven years, when he disposed of it. The store was located where the Manhattan building now stands in Fergus Falls. Mr. Lamson then engaged in the carpenter's trade and contracting work, having previously learned the trade while living in Great Falls, Montana.

On January 10, 1913, the Lamson-Gray concern was incorporated with Mr. Lamson as president and Frank H. Gray as secretary.

On the 15th of August, 1900, Edward S. Lamson was married to Maud D. Libby, the daughter of Charles H. Libby and Mary J. (McKen-

ney) Libby. In 1912 Edward S. Lamson was elected a member of the Fergus Falls city council. He is a man of wide intelligence, naturally shrewd, energetic and far-sighted in business matters. A profound thinker and a wide reader, he keeps abreast of the times and is a student of everything to which he turns his attention.

CHARLES HANSON.

For more than seventeen years the street commissioner of Fergus Falls, Charles Hanson, a well-known resident of Otter Tail county, is respected by the people of this enterprising seat of county government for his long and efficient service.

Mr. Hanson was born on January 31, 1854, and is the son of Berger and Martha (Saunderson) Hanson. Mr. Hanson came to America by way of Quebec, Canada, when he was still a young man. After landing at Windom, Cottonwood county, Minnesota, he worked on the construction of the railroad through that place for a few months and then came to Carlisle, Otter Tail county, where he was engaged in the same work for a period of eighteen months.

In 1883 Mr. Hanson removed to Fergus Falls, Minnesota, and assisted in laying pipes for the waterworks during the next three or four years. For two years he served in the capacity of steam-fitter, and shortly afterward worked for the city as street commissioner, an office which he is still holding and which he has held now for a period of nearly eighteen years.

By Charles Hanson's marriage to Mathea Storffh, a native of Norway, four children have been born, namely: Martin B., who was born in 1885, married Marion Baglo and they have one daughter, Margaret; Edwin, who married Ann Longfeld, is the father of one child, Ardia E.; Henry is the agent for a railroad in North Dakota, and Mabel lives at home with her parents. Fraternally, Mr. Hanson is a member of the Modern Samaritans and the Sons of Norway.

HOMER CASSIUS COOK.

Homer Cassius Cook, one of the prominent residents of Otter Tail county, was a native of Ohio, having been born near Columbus, December 27, 1839, the son of Ambrose and Eliza (Hesser) Cook, the former of whom was born in Vermont in 1809 and the latter in Pennsylvania in 1812. They settled near Columbus, and later, in 1855 moved to Iowa, where Ambrose Cook died, at Elkader, Iowa, in 1884. Mrs. Cook survived her husband some years, having died in Huron, South Dakota, April 19, 1903.

Homer C. Cook was reared in Ohio and received his education in the public schools of that state and at the Upper Iowa University at Fayette. He enlisted in the Union army and served as a soldier during the Civil War. After his first enlistment he became a member of Company I, First Regiment, Missouri Engineers and served in this capacity for three years. Mr. Cook was married in Iowa to Mary J. Albright, who was born in Niles, Michigan, November 2, 1842, she being the daughter of Rev. William K. and Anna (Ritche) Albright. Mr. Albright was a native of Tennessee, having been born in that state in 1812, while Mrs. Albright was born in Indiana, May 24, 1823. Before their marriage they both went to Michigan and were married near Niles, after which they moved to Winnebago county, Illinois in 1845, and later moved to Fayette county, Iowa, in 1854. Mr. Albright died there in 1894, his wife having died on March 17, 1894. They were the parents of the following children: John Wesley (deceased), Mary Jane, Hannah Elizabeth, Philip Jefferson, Sarah Emeline, Richard Walsen (deceased), Joseph Fayette (deceased), Emma Malissa, Julia Adaline (deceased), Wilbur Finley, Albert Harlin and Charles Sumner, who lives in Minneapolis and is connected with the department of the labor commission.

Mr. Cook and wife after their marriage lived in Clayton county, Iowa, and later moved to Winnebago county, where they remained until 1878, when they moved to Detroit, Minnesota, where they lived for one year. In the spring of 1879 they came to Candor township, Otter Tail county, where they took a homestead of one hundred and forty-three acres, in section 2. The widow still makes her home here, Homer Cassius Cook having died on January 2, 1884. Mrs. Cook completed proving up the claim in 1892, and has had most of the land cleared and improved, with good buildings and substantial fences. They were the parents of nine children, namely: Minnie Alveretta, Lena May, Clarence Watson, Jessie Bright, Willis Kincade, Harlan Charles, Ambrose Philip, Julia Emma and Cora Pearl. Minnie Alverta, is the wife of J. H. Wise, a conductor on the railroad and they have three children, Herbert, George and Aileen. Lena May is the wife of George W. Nulp, of Keene, North Dakota, and they have the following children: William, Roy, Clarence, Hazel, Herbert (deceased), Iva Pearl (deceased), Ina Mary, Veda and Marvin. Clarence Watson lives in Montana and is single. Jessie Bright married Benjamin Eaman, and they had three children, Gwendolin, wife of Arthur Nivey, they having four children, Eaman Arthur, Kenneth Rolland, Royal Delos, and Carrol Barr. Nita the wife of Abraham Weighand, they having two children, Lena Jessie and Dallas Leverne (deceased); Homer Cyrie, who is still unmarried. Jessie Bright, married, secondly, John McAnley and they have two children.

Neoma Olive and Iola Lucile. Willis Kincade lives in Minnesota. Harlin Charles is single. Ambrose Philip lives in Montana. Julia Emma is the wife of Henry Randolph, they having the following children, Marion Irene, Earl Vincent, Ruth Winnifred, Wayne Russell and Melvin Lambert. Cora Pearl died in infancy.

Homer Cassius Cook was of a family of six children, Hattie, deceased; Orrin, who died in Ohio, at the age of twenty-two years; George Washington, Homer Cassius, Marvin and Emma Mahaley.

Mrs. Cook, the wife of Homer Cassius Cook, is a woman of refinement and education, having been educated in the public schools and at the Upper Iowa University at Fayette. She was a popular and efficient teacher in the schools of her state for a number of years.

JACOB BERNs.

Jacob Berns, prosperous farmer, stock raiser and man of business, in Rush Lake township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, was born in Bavaria, Germany, September 27, 1848, the son of Jacob and Katherine (Simmer) Berns, both of whom were natives of Germany. Jacob Berns, Sr., came to America in 1850, and settled in Mercer county, Ohio, where he bought a farm of eighty acres, on which he lived the remainder of his days. Jacob and Katherine Berns were the parents of two children, Katherine and Jacob.

Jacob Berns was educated in the public schools of Mercer county, Ohio, after which he went to the woods of Michigan and Wisconsin, where he worked until 1870, when he came to Otter Tail county, Minnesota, and located in Rush Lake township. After some time as a workman in the woods of Rush Lake township, Jacob Berns, with Victor Eifert, engaged in the manufacture of lumber products, at the town of Perham, while following this line of work, these men erected the first building to be built in Perham. In his building, Mr. Berns started a blacksmith shop, taking as a partner Joseph Swabe, who was a blacksmith and who looked after that work, while Jacob Berns engaged in the sale of machinery, a business in which he continued for three years. After disposing of his interests in Perham, Jacob Berns went to the city of Minneapolis, where he was employed on the engineering feat of putting a concrete wall forty feet below the Mississippi Falls, a work in which he was engaged for one year, after which Mr. Berns went to the state of Ohio. On May 4, 1878, Jacob Berns returned to Perham and shortly afterwards bought a farm of one hundred acres in section 3, Rush Lake township, Minnesota, a place to which he later added eighty acres, as well as securing eighty acres east of Perham, twenty acres of timber land in section 23, Rush Lake township, five acres of hay land in Otto township,

and forty acres in Perham township. On his land Mr. Berns now engages in general farming and in stock raising.

During the year 1878, Jacob Berns was married, in Mercer county, Ohio, to Catherine Weis, who was born in Mercer county, on December 15, 1858, the daughter of Status and Magdalena (Stuter) Weis, natives of Germany. To the marriage of Jacob and Catherine Weis have been born nine children: Barney, who now lives near Los Angeles, California; and Jerome, Aurelia, Mary, Leonida, Leo, Henry, Ragna and Simon, who are residents of Otter Tail county. Jacob Berns and his family are members of St. Josephs church, at Perham.

Jacob Berns has been active in the business life of his community, he being one of the organizers of the Farmers Mutual Fire Insurance Company, of Perham, and he is now a stockholder of the Perham Creamery Company.

MAGNA SAMSON.

Magna Samson, one of the early pioneers of Otter Tail county, was born in Voss, Norway, November 3, 1838. His parents, Shure and Esther Sattre, were also born in Voss. The father of Magna Samson died in Norway at the ripe old age of one hundred; the mother died in Iowa at about the same age. One of the brothers of Mr. Samson lost his life in the Mexican War.

Magna Samson came to America with his parents in 1842 and located in Dane county, Wisconsin. He attended school in Deerfield township, in that county, from 1849 to 1853, and then attended school at Janesville, in the same state. At the opening of the Civil War, Mr. Samson enlisted as a private and served with this rank throughout 1861 and 1862. During 1863 he became a corporal and in the following year he was made a sergeant. During 1865 he was doing scout duty for General Dodge, who at that time was in charge of the Fifteenth Army Corps. Among the different battles in which Mr. Samson was engaged may be mentioned the following: Mt. Zion Church, Ft. Donelson, Shiloh, Corinth, Resaca, Atlanta and all of the fighting which Sherman engaged in through Georgia and North and South Carolina. Mr. Samson was in the Grand Review in 1865 at Washington, and soon afterward he was mustered out of the service in Dakota county, Minnesota. He has his two honorable discharges from the service and a special certificate which was granted him by the government in recognition of his long and faithful service.

Mr. Samson remained in Dakota county, Minnesota, until 1880, when he came to Otter Tail county and settled on his present farm near Clitherall, in Leaf Mountain township. He now owns two hundred acres of land,

sixty acres of which is under cultivation. His place is called "Shiloh Farm." Here Mr. Samson has lived with his good wife and reared a large family of children. He was married on June 10, 1878, to Carey Anderson. She was born in Norway, August 22, 1836, a daughter of Endre and Carey (Forstro) Anderson. Her parents had seven children: Oley, Carey, Randy, Christina, Knute, Agnes and John G.

Mr. Samson was surveyor of different counties of Minnesota in the early days. He located settlers under the pre-emption law and later under the homestead law. In fact, Mr. Samson has taken a prominent part in the affairs of his community in several different ways. He was postmaster at Eureka, Dakota county, Minnesota, from 1855 until the opening of the Civil War. He has also served as township clerk and as supervisor. In all of these capacities he has done his work well and earned the commendation of his fellow citizens. Mr. Samson is a Republican. He has been a member of the Odd Fellows and the Grand Army of the Republic. He is a member of the Protestant Lutheran church, to which a large number of his countrymen belong.

Mr. Samson has a great fund of reminiscences of the early days in Minnesota and Dakota. He has some especially fine stories to tell about the Indians, whose language he learned. He is one of the few remaining pioneers of the past generation, and few old settlers in the county can tell of more hair-breadth escapes or thrilling adventures. It is by such men as these that the farms have been developed and Otter Tail county brought to its present state of agricultural prosperity.

MONS ASKEROOOTH.

Mons Askerooth, a well-known farmer of Everts township, was born in Sweden, June 8, 1855, and is a son of John Askerooth, who, with his family came to Minnesota, in 1869. John Askerooth settled in Meeker county, where they lived for a short time, and in 1870, removed to Tordenskjold township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, where they took a homestead of eighty acres, in section 12. Here Mr. Askerooth's father died on April 7, 1884. His wife had died previously, in 1878, at the age of sixty-seven years. John Askerooth and wife were the parents of eight children, of whom Anne and Nels, the first and second in order of birth, are deceased. The other children are Andrew, Bertha, Betsey, Hannah, John and Mons.

Mons Askerooth, the youngest child in his parents' family, was educated in the schools of his native land. He accompanied his father's family to America in 1869, and when old enough took up farming for himself. In the fall of 1889 Mr. Askerooth purchased one hundred and twenty-four acres of land where he carried on general farming and stock raising. Some

years ago he disposed of eighty acres of his land, and now retains forty-four acres located in section 4, of Everts township, on Otter Tail Lake.

In 1885 Mons Askerooth was married to Mary Henkye, who was born in the state of Wisconsin, in 1861. She is a daughter of Fred Henkye, a native of Germany, who first settled in Wisconsin after coming to America, but later removed to Tordenskjold township. He owned one hundred and sixty acres of land, upon which he lived until his death. Mons Askerooth and wife are the parents of eight children, all of whom are living, as follow: Jesse, Louise, Karl, Alice, May, Edwin, Florence and Earl. Mr. Askerooth and family are prominent in the social life of the community in which they live, and are highly respected citizens of the township.

HENRY MAURIN.

Henry Maurin, merchant and president of the town of Elizabeth, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, was born on July 9, 1882, in the county where he now resides, and is a son of Peter and Anna (Kaus) Maurin. His education was obtained at St. John, Minnesota. After his father's death, Mr. Maurin, in partnership with his brother, Mark, took over the management of the store, which is now the leading mercantile store in Elizabeth, in addition to which he is the owner of other valuable property in the town. Politically, Mr. Maurin is a Democrat, and for the past four years has been president of the village.

Peter Maurin, father of the subject of this sketch, was born in 1839 on a farm in Austria, and was a son of Marcus Maurin. He was reared on a farm and attended both the Slavic and German schools, coming to America at the age of nineteen years. He landed at New York City in 1859, going direct to Chicago, Illinois, where he arrived with the magnificent sum of twenty cents. Securing a stock of goods on time, he started out on a peddling tour through Minnesota with a horse and wagon, carrying a good line of goods, which he sold to the soldiers and Indians, and at the end of four years he engaged in a general mercantile business at Cold Springs in 1863, conducting the business under the firm name of Maurin Brothers for nine years. It was the largest store of the kind at that place. He located at Elizabeth in 1872, in pioneer days, when no railroads entered the village. This business was conducted in a log cabin for eight years, but at the time of his death Mr. Maurin was the proprietor of the largest store in Elizabeth. In addition to his mercantile interests, he also engaged in stock raising and farming, in which he was equally successful, and eventually became the owner of about twenty-five hundred acres of land. He also has an interest in the grain elevator at Carlisle, Minnesota. He was united in marriage July 27, 1868, at Faribault, Minnesota, to Annie Kaus. She

was reared at Lafayette, Minnesota, where she received a liberal education. Mr. Maurin was always a public-spirited man, taking an interest in the affairs of his home village, and holding a number of the village and township offices, among which were the following: President of the village board, chairman of the township board, postmaster for ten years, besides several other offices. Politically, he was a staunch Democrat, while his religious sympathies were with the Catholic church, and was one of the organizers of the church at Cold Springs. He died on August 14, 1914. Mrs. Maurin was born at Milwaukee, and is still living. She makes her home with one of her daughters at Elizabeth, Minnesota. Mr. and Mrs. Maurin were the parents of seven children: Emma A., Martha J., Matilda J., Marcus P., Frank J., Antoinette J. and Henry F.

Marcus Maurin, the paternal grandfather, was a native of Austria, and came to America, settling in Wisconsin. He was engaged in the sale of goldsmith's tools, and had traveled over Europe, and made several trips across the seas to and from America. He and his wife were Slavs, and spoke in the Slavic language. They were the parents of nine children, of whom Peter was the third.

Henry Maurin was united in marriage, November 28, 1912, with Laura Rush, daughter of James Rush, a railroad division superintendent. She was born in Wisconsin. This union has been blest with one child, Dorothy, born in 1913. Mr. Maurin has always been regarded as a man of upright principles, and few men in Otter Tail county are better known. His manly qualities, genial disposition and earnest endeavor to keep abreast with the times entitle him to a position as one of the leading citizens of his home town.

ROBERT ALTNER.

Robert Altner, farmer, Elizabeth township, Otter Tail county, was born on December 27, 1886, in the county where he now resides, and is a son of Gustave and Sophia Altner. He and his sister, Tillie, still live on the old home place, and have cared for it ever since their father retired from an active agricultural life, and moved to Fergus Falls. Mr. Altner and his sister take their full measure of comfort out of a neat Ford machine, and with the assistance of an extra farm hand the work of looking after the home place is very much lessened.

Gustave Altner, father of the subject of this sketch was born in Germany. His wife, Sophia, was born on October 14, 1842, in Germany. He came to this country in 1862, and spent the first year at Washington, moving from there to Elizabeth township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, where he purchased a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres, in section 7, to

which he afterward added two hundred acres more in Elizabeth township. About three years prior to his death, Mr. Altner moved to Fergus Falls, his death occurring about 1906. He put all the improvements on his farm, and was a very active man in the community, but never cared for public office. Religiously, he was a member of the Evangelical church, in the work of which he took a leading part, having been a well educated man. Mrs. Altner died on June 25, 1909. Seven children were born to this union, namely: Henry, John, Herman, Gustave, Sophia, Robert, Tillie. Henry was united in marriage with Elizabeth Schocht, now deceased, and Mr. Altner resides at Kermit, North Dakota; John was married to Anna Schneider, and lives at Fergus Falls; Herman was united in marriage with Martha Wissbrod, and lives at Noonan, North Dakota; Sophia became the wife of Harry Seibel, and lives at Emerson, Canada; Gustave is with his brother, Herman; Tillie is on the home place with her brother, Robert, and teaches school in district No. 80, during the winter months.

Mr. Altner has a host of warm friends throughout the county, where he has become an integral part of the agricultural world, giving at all times a full measure of honest business dealing.

ALBERT FRAUTSCHI.

Albert Frautschi, farmer, Elizabeth township, Otter Tail county, was born on February 5, 1870, in Switzerland, and is a son of John P. and Katherine (Frautschi) Frautschi. He came with his parents to America in 1872, landing at New York when he was two years old. He was educated at the public schools of Elizabeth, Minnesota, where he has always lived and where he has achieved an enviable reputation as a progressive and prosperous agriculturist, his present farm consisting of two hundred and sixty acres, and containing substantial buildings of every description, all of which are well cared for and present a neat and attractive appearance, indicating the exercise of good management in every detail. Politically, Mr. Frautschi is a strong believer in the policies of the Democratic party, and has taken an active interest in local politics, holding the office of township treasurer. Religiously, he is an earnest member of the Lutheran church.

John P. Frautschi, father of the subject of this sketch, was born in Switzerland, and was united in marriage with Katherine Frautschi, his second cousin. They came to America in 1872, landing at New York, coming at once to Minnesota, where they bought one hundred and sixty acres of good farm land in section 19, Elizabeth township, where they spent the remainder of their lives. Mr. Frautschi was eminently successful in his agricultural vocation, owning, at the time of his death, four hundred and twelve acres. Religiously, he belonged to the German Lutheran

church. This union was blest with three children, Albert, Henri and Eliza, deceased.

Abraham Frautschi, the paternal grandfather, lived and died in the old country, and was a member of the German Reformed church. He was a son of Isaac Frautschi, and was a soldier in the German army, but never participated in any battles. He was a farmer, and lived near Saanen. Isaac Frautschi, the paternal great-grandfather, was a guard for the pope in early days.

Jacob Frautschi, the maternal grandfather, was a soldier in the Civil War of Switzerland, and spent his entire life in that country. He was a son of Noritz Frautschi, who participated in the battle of Waterloo. Mr. Frautschi always followed farming, and was an earnest member of the German Reformed church.

Albert Frautschi was united in marriage, November 8, 1904, with Augusta Beske, daughter of Carl Beske. Mr. and Mrs. Frautschi have the friendship of a large circle of warm friends and neighbors, and are highly esteemed in the community in which they reside.

ROBERT BESKE.

Robert Beske, farmer, Elizabeth, Otter Tail county, was born on January 14, 1890, on the farm which he now owns. He is a son of Carl and Alvina (Giese) Beske. He was educated at the district schools of Elizabeth and later attended the parochial school. He bought his present farm in 1913, which is the farm formerly owned by his father, the place having had but three owners all told, the improvements of which were all put on the place by his father, including a house, built in 1890, and a barn, built in 1903. In all, Mr. Beske owns two hundred acres of land, located half a mile from the town of Elizabeth. He is a member of the German Lutheran church.

Carl Beske, father of the subject of this sketch, was born on April 14, 1851, in Germany, and was united in marriage with Alvina Giese. Mr. Beske was educated in his native land, coming to America at the age of thirty-two years, his marriage having taken place in Germany. In two weeks from the time of landing on American shores, he bought the place now owned by Robert Beske, consisting of one hundred and sixty acres, on which he lived until his death, which took place on March 7, 1907. Five years after making his original purchase, Mr. Beske added forty acres more in Fergus Falls township, and in 1898, bought two hundred and seventy-five acres more in section 19, Buse township, owning in all, at the time of his death, four hundred and seventy-five acres. He united with the Lutheran church, in the work of which he always took an active part, officiating as

treasurer for fifteen years. Politically, Mr. Beske was a strong believer in the policies of the Republican party. The children born to Carl and Alvina (Giese) Beske were: Anna (deceased), Augusta, Albert, Martha, Elsie, Robert and Ada. Anna Beske was united in marriage with Max Kronneman, and lived in Fergus Falls township; Augusta became the wife of Albert Frautschi; Albert was married to Clara Rossow, and resides in Buse township; Martha was married to Rudolph Rossow, and lives at Orwell, Minnesota.

August Beske, the paternal grandfather, was a native of Germany, and came to America in 1883, on the same vessel with his son, Carl, and was accompanied by his wife. He landed at New York and came immediately to Fergus Falls township, where he spent the remainder of his life.

Robert Beske was united in marriage on June 24, 1913, with Amanda Splittgerber, daughter of Charles Splittgerber, a farmer. She was born in Otter Tail county, Minnesota. Mr. Beske is a busy man, but manages to find frequent opportunity to inform himself as to what is going on in the world, and always has a pleasant word for each of his many friends.

ALFRED W. SUNDBERG.

Among the many sturdy farmers of Swedish birth or descent in Amor township, this county, few are better known or are regarded as more substantial citizens than Alfred W. Sundberg, who was born at Fergus Falls, the county seat of Otter Tail county, on March 30, 1872, son of Olaf and Augustava (Nordberg) Sundberg, natives of Sweden, who emigrated to this country in the early days of the settlement hereabout and who became prominent in the development of this community. Further details of the genealogy of this family may be found in the biographical sketch of the late Olaf Sundberg, presented elsewhere in this volume. His widow, mother of the subject of this biographical sketch, is still living in this county, honored and respected by all who know her. Olaf Sundberg came to America in 1865 and was married in this county.

Alfred Sundberg received his early education in district school No. 69, in Amor township, and was reared to the life of the farm. In 1902 he bought the farm of one hundred and twenty acres on which he is now living and his life since then has been largely devoted to bringing the place to its present state of excellent cultivation, he being regarded as one of the best farmers in his neighborhood. All the present substantial improvements on the place have been made by him and his present comfortable home was erected in 1903, the year of his marriage and the year following his purchase of the farm.

On March 16, 1903, Alfred W. Sundberg was united in marriage to

Elma Murk, daughter of Oscar Murk, a well-known farmer of this county, son of Gabriel and Magdalena (Carlson) Murk, also natives of Sweden and old residents in this county, further particulars of which family also are presented elsewhere in this volume, and to this union has been born one child, a son, Herman E., who was born on November 9, 1910. Mr. and Mrs. Sundberg have a pleasant home in Amor township and the rural free mail delivery and the telephone keep them in close touch with affairs. They display a proper interest in all good works in their neighborhood and are very popular with their many friends.

Mr. Sundberg has a good farm, well cared for, and in addition to his general farming gives much attention to the raising of live stock, his Short-horn cattle and his hogs showing evidences of his knowledge of the subject. Mr. Sundberg is a stalwart, good-natured man and has hosts of friends, all of whom hold him in the highest esteem.

J. E. RITCHEY.

Member of the town board of Richville, this county, supervisor of Amor township and treasurer of his school district, J. E. Ritchey is doing well his part in the common life of Otter Tail county and is very naturally looked upon as one of the leading citizens of the prosperous and progressive neighborhood in which he lives and where he is held in high regard by the whole community.

J. E. Ritchey was born in Steele county, this state, on October 6, 1862, son of Joseph and Amanda (Reasor) Ritchey. Joseph Ritchey was born in Pennsylvania, son of Jacob Ritchey, a farmer and blacksmith, who also was born in the Keystone state and who came to Minnesota in the early days of the settlement of the great Northwest, settling in LeSueur county, where he farmed until late in life, after which he retired and came to Otter Tail county, where his last days were spent.

Joseph Ritchey, who died in this county in 1898, was but a boy when his parents moved to Minnesota and he was reared in LeSueur county, where he began farming upon reaching manhood's estate and where he lived until about 1885. He then sold his holdings there and moved to Steele county. He was active in the civic life of the community and held several public offices, in all of which positions he acquitted himself as a faithful public servant and a good citizen. During the Indian war in Minnesota he performed excellent service as a soldier attached to the regular army of the United States and was thoroughly acquainted with pioneer conditions in this state. He and his wife were the parents of eight children, Isaac (deceased), Isabella (deceased), Rachel, Joshua, William, Andrew, George and Charles.

J. E. Ritchey received his early education in Steele county, this state, and grew up to the life of the farm. In 1901 he bought a farm of one hundred and ninety-six acres in Amor township, this county, and has brought the same to a high state of cultivation. The substantial improvements on this place he has made himself, his present comfortable residence having been erected in 1909. His fine barn was built in 1904. He gives considerable attention to the raising of live stock and makes a specialty of Short-horn cattle and Poland China hogs.

J. E. Ritchey married Isabelle Loney, who was born in LeSueur county, this state, and to this union four children have been born, Carl, Henry, Myrtle and Leo, the latter of whom now is the practical manager of the home farm. Mr. Ritchey for years has given close attention to public affairs in this neighborhood and is regarded as one of the substantial men of the Richville community. He is a member of the town board, as noted in the opening paragraph of this review, and is likewise township supervisor and treasurer of the school district. He is a member of the local lodge of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and gives close personal attention to the affairs of that popular order. He is a good citizen and has many friends in this county, all of whom hold him in high esteem.

F. H. LANGVICK.

Among the well-known farmers and prominent citizens of Amor township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, is F. H. Langvick, who was born on the old Langvick homestead, in Amor township, August 15, 1873, the son of Mikkell and Bertha (Odegaard) Langvick, natives of Norway. Following his marriage, in his native country, Mikkell Langvick, in 1871, came to America, and located at Detroit, Michigan, where he lived for a time and then came to the state of Minnesota, living for one year at Red Wing, and then came to Otter Tail county, homesteading eighty acres of land in Amor township. On his farm the elder Langvick placed extensive improvements, and from time to time added to his land until, at the time of his death on May 17, 1912, Mikkell Langvick was the owner of two hundred and twenty acres of land in Amor township. Mikkell and Bertha Langvick were the parents of the following children: Joseph, Martha, Anna, F. H., Emma, Clara, Frederick, Mina and Hulda. Mikkell Langvick was a member of the Norwegian Lutheran church of Amor township.

F. H. Langvick received his early education in the public schools of Amor township, after which he became a student at St. Cloud College, of St. Cloud, Minnesota, a school which he attended for two winters. Following his school days, Mr. Langvick took up farming, operating the home place until the death of his father, when F. H. Langvick took possession of

the homestead, which farm he has improved somewhat and where he now engages in general agricultural pursuits. In addition to the farm of his work, Mr. Langvick is the owner of one hundred and fifteen acres of land in section 1, Amor township. Mr. Langvick is an active and interested member of the Norwegian Lutheran church, giving of his time and means for the support of the work of this denomination.

JOHN BARRY.

The proprietor of a splendid farm of one hundred and sixty acres in Maine township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, John Barry, a long-time resident of Otter Tail county, was born in Boston, Massachusetts, August 7, 1857. Mr. Barry's father, John Barry, Sr., was a native of Ireland, who was born on August 4, 1831, and who died on June 1, 1908. He was twice married, John Barry, Jr., being the son of Johanna (Scannell) Barry, a native of Ireland. John Barry, Sr., and Johanna Scannell were married in Ireland. After living in Ireland for a time, where Mr. Barry was a sailor and sea captain, they came to this country and settled in Boston, Massachusetts, where, for a time, he sailed the sea. Subsequently, however, he moved from Boston to Chicago and, for a few years, worked in the packing houses. He then moved to Fond du Lac county, Wisconsin, and purchased ninety-six acres of land, where he lived for approximately a quarter of a century. Upon leaving Wisconsin, he came to Maine township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, and purchased ninety-six acres of land. Before his death, he owned one hundred and seventeen acres, which is now held by John Barry, Jr.'s, half-brother, Daniel.

The late John Barry was married, secondly, to Catherine Murphy, who was the widow of John Sullivan and who had one child by the first marriage, Mary, deceased. Mr. Sullivan was killed in the Civil War. By his second marriage, John Barry, Sr., had three children, Daniel, Michael and Bridget, deceased. By the first marriage, there were six children, John, Mary, David, Catherine, James and Hannah, who is deceased. The late John Barry was a member of the Catholic church.

John Barry, Jr., the subject of this sketch, received his education principally in the common schools of Wisconsin and lived at home with his parents until July 31, 1883, when he was married to Elizabeth Murray, a native of Canada. To them have been born eight children, all of whom are living and at home except David and Peter. The names of the children in the order of their birth are, John, David, Mary, Elizabeth, Peter, Anna, Thomas and Catherine.

Mr. Barry lived on his present farm of one hundred and sixty acres four years before his marriage. He has erected a splendid house and has

made other important improvements. Mr. Barry began life on this farm in 1878. He now enjoys all of the modern conveniences of rural life, including rural mail and telephone service. Mr. Barry has laid out most of the roads in Maine township.

The Barry family are all members of the Catholic church. Since 1881 John Barry has been a member of the local school board and for the past eighteen years has been a township supervisor. He took an active part in the organization of school district No. 146, and also in the organization of the Catholic church in this township. He has been a member of the church committee since 1881.

SOLON HUBBARD.

Solon Hubbard, a citizen of Maine township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, is a veteran of the Civil War, in which he served for six months as a member of Company B, Sixty-fourth Regiment, New York Volunteer Infantry. He was wounded by a bullet which struck his right arm and, for a time, was unable to use the arm, but eventually regained its use. Mr. Hubbard is an old-time citizen of this county, having homesteaded a farm of one hundred and sixty acres as early as 1878.

Solon Hubbard was born in Cattaraugus county, New York, December 25, 1838. He is the son of Isaac P. and Emeline (Wattenlough) Hubbard, natives of Vermont and of New York state, respectively. Mr. Hubbard's mother was the daughter of John Wattenlough, a native of Germany and a farmer by occupation. His paternal grandfather, Elisha Hubbard, was also a native of New York and a farmer by occupation, who, after moving to New York state, settled in Cattaraugus county.

The late Isaac P. Hubbard was educated in the common schools of the state of Vermont and was engaged in farming practically all of his life. He owned one hundred and fifty acres of land in Cattaraugus county and died on his old farm. He was a member of the Wesleyan Methodist church and was a very strict believer. He followed literally the teachings of Christianity. There were nine children in the family of Isaac P. and Emeline (Wattenlough) Hubbard, of whom, Emmerilla, Elizabeth, Ellen, Harriet and William are deceased. The living children are Solon E., Melvin, Marshall and Minerva.

Solon Hubbard was educated in Cattaraugus county, New York, and, for a time, attended the common schools. In all of his life, however, he never attended more than twenty-seven days in one year. In the meantime, however, he has supplemented his education by home study and today is known as a great reader. Mr. Hubbard takes the *Minneapolis Daily News* and is a close student of politics, local, state and national.

Mr. Hubbard has one hundred and sixty acres of land in Maine township, which he homesteaded here in 1878. Some years ago he sold eighty acres of the farm. Mr. Hubbard has put all of the improvements upon the farm. Prior to coming to Minnesota, he was a cheese maker in Cattaraugus county, New York. He established a cheese factory in Maine township which is now known as the Phelps Company, and made cheese himself for thirty-five years and two months.

On January 1, 1858, Solon Hubbard was married to Clarissa Kelley, and to them have been born four children, Rosalind, Clinton, Emmeline and Nellie. All of the children are married and all live in Otter Tail county except Emmeline, who is deceased. For a number of years, Solon Hubbard served as constable of Maine township.

JOHN SHEARER.

John Shearer, who owns a good farm in Maine township, is a native of Crawford county, Pennsylvania, where he was born on December 12, 1859, the son of James and Sally (Sarner) Shearer, both of whom were natives of the Keystone state.

The paternal grandfather of John Shearer was John Shearer, Sr., who was a native of one of the eastern states. His father had come to America from Germany and was an early settler in Pennsylvania. John Shearer, Sr., owned about one hundred acres of land in Crawford county and died there on his farm. He was a member of the Methodist Episcopal church and served in the War of 1812. Captured by the Indians during the War of 1812, he was bound hand and foot, but during the night one of the Indians cut the rope from his hands and gave him a knife with which to cut the rope at his feet. The Indian who gave him the knife beckoned Mr. Shearer to follow him. The Indian walked miles away from the camp without saying a word, but suddenly turned and said to Mr. Shearer, "Do you remember me?" Mr. Shearer said, "No." "Well," said the Indian, "I know you. Do you remember the time you let a half-frozen Indian into your house?" "Yes," said Mr. Shearer. The Indian replied, "I am the man; now, since you saved my life, I am saving yours." The Indian gave him directions as to how he might find his home without being molested. The Indian told Mr. Shearer that he dared not return to his tribe because they would kill him, but he would join another tribe.

Mr. Shearer's father was educated in the common schools of Crawford county, Pennsylvania, and was a farmer all of his life. He died in September, 1896, and his wife in 1872. They were members of the Methodist church.

John Shearer, the subject of this sketch, left home at the age of fifteen

years and, for a time, worked in the oil regions near Bradford, Pennsylvania. When Mr. Shearer was nineteen years old, he came west and settled in Otter Tail county, Minnesota, where he purchased a claim. He also homesteaded eighty acres and later acquired one hundred fifty-two and one-half acres all in the same township. Mr. Shearer has made all of the improvements upon his farm and most of it has been cleared of timber. The Indians roamed through this country when Mr. Shearer came west, but there has been a wonderful transformation in the years he has lived in Otter Tail county.

When Mr. Shearer was forty-five years old, he was married to Rosalind Hubbard, who was born in the state of New York and who is the daughter of Solon Hubbard, referred to elsewhere in this volume. Mrs. Shearer was the widow of Osgood Adley and, by her first marriage, had one child, Clara, who lives with Mr. and Mrs. Shearer. By her marriage to Mr. Shearer, there has been born one child, James, who is unmarried and lives at home.

Mrs. John Shearer is a member of the Presbyterian church. Mr. Shearer served six years as constable of Maine township, but has not been active in politics for some years.

JOHN HILKOSKE.

John Hilkoske, the son of Albert and Elizabeth (Gorskie) Hilkoske, was born in Germany, May 22, 1847. Albert Hilkoske died when John was but six weeks old and he was left to the loving care and attention of his widowed mother. Albert Hilkoske, a farmer and soldier, lived his life in his native country, Germany. He was a devout member of the Catholic church. The subject of this sketch fought for his country in the War of 1870. Elizabeth Hilkoske was married a second time after the death of her first husband.

John Hilkoske came to America in the year 1881 and settled in Colorado where he was engaged in coal mining for nine years. In 1890 he came to Otter Tail county, where he purchased two hundred acres of land in Otter Tail township, bordering on Otter Tail lake. John Hilkoske was married at the age of thirty-six to Josephine Novack, who was also a native of Germany. To Mr. and Mrs. Hilkoske have been born the following children: Andrew, Benjamin, Mary, John, Catherine, Clara, Rose, Paul, Sylvester and Albert. Mr. and Mrs. Hilkoske and family are members of the St. Lawrence Catholic church at Rush Lake.

The following children of Mr. and Mrs. Hilkoske are married and have homes of their own: Andrew married Mary Kopell and lives in Becker county, Minnesota; Rose was married to H. D. Wendte, and they are resi-

dents of Otter Tail county; John is married to Olga Holmenquist, and they have established a home in Williston, North Dakota.

John Hilkoske purchased his farm in this county for the most part as Nature had left it and has improved it to its present state. The house was built in the year 1890 by John McNellis, of St. Paul, the other buildings and improvements have been placed by Mr. Hilkoske. The old plat of Otter Tail City was near the present farm. At one time this town had bright prospects to be a thriving city and business center, but the railroad that was to have gone through the town changed its course and passed through the town of Perham. When Mr. Hilkoske settled on his farm many Indians were in evidence.

Mr. and Mrs. Hilkoske have retired from the active duties of the farm, but the high standard of efficient farming has been maintained through the efforts of their sons, Paul, Sylvester and Albert, with their sister Catherine to look after the household duties.

JOHN PETERSON.

John Peterson was born in Sweden, December 5, 1867, the son of Peter Johnson and Mary (Knutson) Johnson, both of whom were natives of Sweden, where Peter Johnson now lives, a farmer on one hundred and twenty acres of land in that country, Mary Johnson having died in June, of the year 1913. Peter and Mary Johnson were the parents of the following children, Anna, Carl, Tilda, John, Eingre, Nels, Augusta, Mary, Alfred, Oscar and Ammei, of whom Nels and John came to America. Peter Johnson and his family are members of the Swedish Lutheran church.

John Peterson, following his education in the public schools of his native land came, during the year 1887, to America and after landing at New York City he came to Meeker county, Minnesota, where he worked for two years as a day laborer and then went to the city of St. Paul, Minnesota, where after working some time at day work, he went to the state of North Dakota, and there rented a farm, later returning to Wilkin county, Minnesota, at which place he bought one thousand acres of land on which he cultivated wheat and oats for two years, and then selling this land, John Peterson moved to Otter Tail county, and, in the year 1902, bought two hundred and forty acres of land in Compton township, where he now lives. The farm of John Peterson is one of the best improved and most highly cultivated of the county, this progressive farmer having built, during the year 1903, a modern barn in size forty-four by fifty-six feet, and more lately erected a large and complete silo.

On November 20, 1895, John Peterson was married to Cora Larson,
(60b)

who was born in Sweden, May 5, 1876, the daughter of Andrew Larson and wife, who came to America during the year 1880, and located in Wilkins county, Minnesota, where Andrew Larson now lives, his wife having died there. To the marriage of John and Cora Peterson were born nine children, Nina May, Harry, Genevieve, Alice, Gladys, Mabel, Agnes, Norma and Lawrence. John Peterson and his family are members and active workers of the Swedish Lutheran church in Compton township.

John Peterson and his family are among the best known people of the community, they being respected and esteemed for their lives and for their works in the township and county.

A. R. DANIELSON.

A. R. Danielson, who owns one hundred and thirty acres of land in Compton township, is a native of Sweden, where he was born on October 17, 1863, son of Daniel and Carrie (Anderson) Danielson, both of whom were natives of Sweden, who spent their entire lives in their native country. Mr. Danielson's father received military training in his native land. He was a prominent member of the Lutheran church.

Educated in the public schools of his native land, A. R. Danielson came to America in 1887, and, after landing in New York City, went direct to Mille Lacs county, Minnesota, where he lived for five years. In 1892 Mr. Danielson came to Otter Tail county. At the same time he purchased a farm of eighty acres, to which he has since added fifty acres. In 1892 he built a comfortable and commodious home and has made practically all of the improvements to be seen on the farm today. For his original farm Mr. Danielson paid only ten dollars an acre. Here in the community where he is well known he is rated as an enterprising and successful farmer and citizen. Mr. Danielson owns an automobile and enjoys both the rural mail and telephone service.

On July 15, 1890, A. R. Danielson was married to Mary Nelson, a native of Sweden, and to them have been born two children, Dalia and Albin. Both of these children live at home with their parents.

FREDRICK SEEBA.

Fredrick Seeba, well-known farmer of Maine township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, was born in Friberg township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, on June 3, 1881, the son of John and Albertina (Eichstadt) Seeba, natives of Germany. John Seeba lived in his native country, until 1868, when he came to America, and located at Red Wing, Minnesota, near where he worked as a farmer for three years and then came to Otter Tail county, and bought a farm in Friberg township, where he now lives. John Seeba

was the first settler to locate in Friberg township, Otter Tail county, and is a man who has done much for the development and progress of the community. John and Albertina Seeba were the parents of the following children: Fredrick, Herman, John, Mary and Amelia.

Fredrick Seeba received his education in the public schools of Friberg township, Otter Tail county, and after leaving his classes, he became a farmer, buying, in the year 1908, eighty acres of land which he now cultivates as a general farmer. Mr. Seeba has greatly improved his farm, has supplied his place with the most approved equipment and is now among the most successful of the younger farmers in the community.

On December 22, 1908, Fredrick Seeba was married to Lottie Wenholm, who was born at Lida, Minnesota, the daughter of John Wenholm and wife, well-known people of the community. To the marriage of Fredrick and Lottie Seeba have been born two children, Clifford and Raymond. Mr. Seeba and his wife are members of the Presbyterian church.

OLE HONRUD.

Ole Honrud, prosperous farmer and well-known citizen of Oscar township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, was born at Spring Grove, Minnesota, July 31, 1869, the son of Lars O. and Mary (Johnson) Honrud, natives of Norway. Lars O. Honrud was the son of Ole Honrud, who came to America when he was an elderly man and homesteaded a farm in Cass county, North Dakota, where he lived until his death, in 1913, he being ninety-two years of age at the time of his death. Lars O. Honrud was educated in the schools of his native land, after which he married and then, in 1866, came to America and located in the state of Wisconsin, where he worked as a farm helper, until 1871, when he came to Otter Tail county, Minnesota, and homesteaded eighty acres of land in Oscar township, a farm which the elder Honrud cultivated for the remainder of his days, dying in 1904. Mary, the wife of Lars O. Honrud, died in 1885. Lars O. and Mary Honrud were the parents of six children, Ole, Julia, Oscar, Lena (deceased), Severin and Altin (deceased). Lars O. Honrud was an active and devout member of the Norwegian Lutheran church of Oscar township, he giving liberally of his time and means for the support of the work of this congregation. As a farmer, the elder Honrud was notably successful, not only having cultivated his farm to a high state of productiveness, but he acquired during his farming career, three hundred and twenty acres of the best land in Oscar township, Otter Tail county.

Ole Honrud received his education in the common schools of Oscar township, Otter Tail county, after which he became a farmer, securing one of the desirable farms of Oscar township, where for twenty-three years

Mr. Honrud has made his home and where he now engages successfully in general agricultural pursuits. Ole Honrud has greatly improved his farm during the past years, having built a new house in 1900, and during the year 1903 erected one of the best barns of the locality. From time to time Mr. Honrud has added to his acreage until now he owns two hundred and seventy-six acres of well cultivated land in Oscar township.

On December 26, 1888, Ole Honrud was married to Lizzie Wastin, and to this marriage have been born nine children, Lewis, Melvin, Elbert, Anna, Oscar, Ludwig, Bertha, Olaf and Melford. Ole Honrud and his family are members of the Norwegian Lutheran church, of Oscar township.

In addition to his farm activity, Ole Honrud has taken an active interest in business circles, as it affects the farmer, and he is now one of the stockholders of the Rothsay Elevator Company, of Rothsay, Minnesota.

JOHN L. TAYLOR.

One of the splendid farms of Leaf Lake township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, is a tract of two hundred acres owned by John L. Taylor, who was born at Winona, Minnesota, April 17, 1862. Mr. Taylor not only has a highly productive farm but his buildings are all in first-class condition and he has one of the most beautiful country homes in Otter Tail county.

John L. Taylor is the son of James and Mary (Campbell) Taylor, the former of whom was born in Ireland, December 12, 1832, and the latter born in America, September 28, 1832. The paternal grandfather of John L. Taylor was James Taylor, a native of Ireland, whose wife, before her marriage, was Mary Anderson. James Taylor, Sr., came to America when his son, James, Jr., the father of John L., was nine years old, in 1844. He settled in the state of Illinois, and, after living there for seven years, moved to Winona county, Minnesota. He was a devout member of the Presbyterian church. One of his sons, David, a brother of James, Jr., was killed in the battle of Gettysburg.

James Taylor, Jr., was educated in the common schools of the state of Minnesota. He was a broom-maker by trade and a farmer in Winona county. Subsequently, however, he moved to McLeod county and lived at Glencoe, Minnesota, carrying the mail and driving a stage from Glencoe to Henderson, and from Glencoe to Blakeley, Minnesota. After a time, he moved to a farm in Sibley county and, after living there for five years, came to Otter Tail county and homesteaded one hundred and one acres in Leaf Lake township. He received an extra amount of land because he had been a soldier. His land bordered East Leaf lake on the south. He died on April 27, 1890. He was a soldier in the Civil War, having served in the Ninth Illinois Cavalry for a short time. He enlisted near the close of the war. At his death

he left three children, Mary J., John L. and David M., the latter living in the state of Washington.

John L. Taylor was educated in Sibley county, Minnesota, and lived at home with his parents until November 25, 1887, when he was married to Electa Wilkinson, a native of Sibley county, Minnesota, born on June 4, 1868. Mrs. Taylor is the daughter of Ralph and Elizabeth (Townsend) Wilkinson, natives of Valparaiso, Indiana, and Vermont, respectively. Both are now deceased. The former was a farmer in Otter Tail county for a time, but late in life moved to Oregon, where his wife died. He then returned to Otter Tail county and died here on August 2, 1900. His wife had died three years previously, June 30, 1897. They were the parents of the following children, all of whom are living: Kleber, Volney, Electa, Jennie, Archie, Robert, Jesse, Irvin, Anna, Harley and Mabel. Mr. and Mrs. John L. Taylor, who have no children of their own, reared Mabel Haugan, who was married on June 2, 1915, to Raymond Applegaard.

After his marriage Mr. Taylor located on eighty acres of land in section 35, of Leaf Lake township. Subsequently, he purchased one hundred and twenty acres additional and now has two hundred acres, most of which was wild land at the time he purchased it. Practically all of the improvements upon the farm have been put here by Mr. Taylor himself. In 1912 he rebuilt his house and, seven years previously, had built a new barn. Mr. Taylor is still active in farm work and operates the farm with hired help. Mr. Taylor has served as school clerk for thirteen years in Leaf Lake township. He is a successful farmer, a most useful citizen and a popular man in the neighborhood where he lives.

HERMAN DUENOW.

Herman Duenow, prosperous farmer and prominent citizen of Friberg township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, was born in Prussia, Germany, on February 4, 1860, the son of William and Albertine (Gabriel) Duenow, natives of Germany. William Duenow came to America in 1805, and landed at New York city, after a stormy voyage of five weeks on the Atlantic ocean, and following a short time in New York city, the elder Deunow went to Watertown, Wisconsin, where he worked generally for five years and then moved to Otter Tail county, Minnesota, and homesteaded eighty acres of land in section 30, Friberg township, a farm which William Deunow cultivated for the remainder of his days, he dying in 1907. Albertine, the widow of William Duenow, lives with her son, Albert, on the old homestead in Friberg township. William and Albertine Duenow were the parents of five children, Herman, Fred, Minnie, Bertha and Albert.

Herman Duenow was educated in the public schools of Watertown,

Wisconsin, after which he became a farmer, working near his home in Wisconsin, for some time, and then coming to Otter Tail county, Minnesota, where he acquired a farm which he improved and a place to which he added land until now Herman Duenow owns six hundred and fifty acres of land in Otter Tail county, all but eighty acres of his land being in Friberg township.

On May 24, 1882, Herman Duenow was married to Matilda Zuelsdorff, who was born in Germany, and to this marriage have been born four children, George, Alfonse, William and Herbert. Herman Duenow and his family are members of the German Lutheran church, in Friberg township.

Herman Duenow has been active in the public life of his community, he taking a thorough interest in all matters of general welfare or local progress, as well as serving as clerk of Friberg township, and he having served as clerk of the school district and as township supervisor.

JOHN STEGE.

Long recognized as a leader in his community, active, progressive and prompt in action in matters relating to the general welfare of the vicinity in which he lives, John Stege, a well-known farmer of Gorman township, this county, is looked upon as one of the most substantial citizens of that section of the county.

John Stege was born in Prussia, Germany, September 11, 1865, son of Richard and Elizabeth (Bollard) Stege, both natives of Prussia and the parents of two children, John Stege having a sister, Sophia. Richard Stege was the son of Henry Stege, who owned a small farm, and he was trained in the methodical ways of the German farmer. In 1880 he and his wife and daughter came to America, landing at the port of New York and immediately thereafter coming to Minnesota, where they located in this county, taking a farm in Leaf Lake township, which was their home thereafter. Upon the death of his first wife, the mother of the subject of this biographical sketch, Richard Stege, married, secondly, Eliza Vilbae, which union was without issue. Richard Stege died some years ago in his home in Leaf Lake township.

It was not until five years after his parents had come to this county that John Stege came to America. That was in 1885. He landed at New York and straightway came to this county to rejoin his parents. Shortly after arriving here he bought eighty acres of land in Gorman township, where he ever since has made his home and where he has prospered until now he is the owner of four hundred acres, all in one tract and the most of which is under profitable cultivation. In 1908 he built a fine new house on the home place and he and his family are very comfortably situated. About

the same time he built a new barn, twenty-four by seventy feet, with cement floor and all modern equipment for the proper operation of an up-to-date farm plant, with gas-engine for motive power and other things to correspond, his place being looked upon as one of the best-kept farms in that community.

In 1902 John Stege was united in marriage to Minnie Bohr, who also was born in Prussia, but with whom he became acquainted after coming to this country, and to this union four children have been born, Ada, Walter, Edwin and Otto, all of whom are at home with their parents. Mr. and Mrs. Stege are earnest and active members of the Lutheran church and are held in high esteem throughout the neighborhood in which they live.

Mr. Stege ever since coming to this county has taken an active interest in affairs and is looked upon as a very alert business man as well as an excellent farmer. For four years he was secretary of the co-operative creamery at Perham; for five years secretary of the mutual insurance association of the neighborhood and for six years was president of the farmers store association at Perham. He also has been a member of the directing board of the shipping association for the past two years and is interested in other movements looking to the development of the best interests of the farmers of that section of the county. These activities naturally have brought him prominently before the people of that vicinity and he enjoys the confidence and regard of all thereabout.

ARTHUR A. KRAUSE.

Arthur A. Krause, one of the prominent and successful young farmers of Otter Tail county, was born on October 9, 1881, the son of Adolphus and Augusta (Rechter) Krause. Adolphus Krause was born in Germany, October 23, 1845. He was the son of George and Amastina Krause, who owned and conducted a grocery store in a small town in that country. Adolphus was the eldest of a family of children and came alone to America in 1860, landing at New Orleans. Proceeding up the Mississippi River he remained for several years in St. Clair county, Illinois, after which he worked for five years as a shoe-maker in St. Louis. Before coming to Otter Tail county in 1872, he was for a time in the Northwest where he was engaged in teaming for the government, in the hauling of freight. On his arrival in Otter Tail county he at once homesteaded eighty acres of land in section 30, Friberg township. To the original farm he added until at the time of his retirement from active work he owned over three hundred acres.

Adolphus Krause and Augusta Rechter were married in November, 1880, and are the parents of the following children: Arthur, Max, Martha, Emma, Otto and Hulda. Mr. and Mrs. Krause retired from the farm in

1914, locating in Fergus Falls where they now reside. They are active members of the German Lutheran church. Mr. Krause has been town treasurer and school treasurer for many years.

Arthur A. Krause was educated in the common schools of his township. He was married on December 9, 1903, to Bertha Peters, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Peters, who were among the earliest settlers of the county. They are the parents of the following children: Herbert, Julius, Esther, Lillian and John.

Mr. Krause bought his present home farm of one hundred and ninety-eight acres in 1903. In 1904 he built the house and barn and since which time he has added many other improvements. Mr. Krause and family are members of the German Lutheran church and take an active part in the services. For the past nine years he has been school treasurer and at the present time is vice-president of the Farmers Telephone Company.

CARL E. OLSON.

Carl E. Olson, a leading farmer of Dane Prairie township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, was born in Norway on June 27, 1881, a son of Hans H. and Marguerite (Swanson) Olson. Mr. Olson was brought to this country by his parents in 1884, while still a small child, and with them settled at Hudson, Wisconsin. There the parents still reside, the father now retired from the active duties of life. Throughout all his active years he was a blacksmith and considered a very good workman at his trade. Both parents are members of the Lutheran church and in the tenets of that faith they reared their family of nine children. The eldest of the family was Sophia, who died at the age of three years, and the second child was given the same name. This latter Sophia lives in Spokane, Washington and is the wife of a Mr. Peterson. Mr. Peterson is her second husband, she having first been the wife of M. W. Taylor, deceased. Olive, the third child, died when eighteen years of age, and Halvor, the fourth, saw service during the Spanish-American war and died from the effects of exposure during service. Hilda is the wife of A. G. Sulwold and lives in Minneapolis, and Andrew makes his home in Canada, where he is engaged in farming. Selma is the wife of J. C. Keitel and resides in St. Paul. The eighth child in order of birth, is Carl, the immediate subject of this sketch, and the youngest is Olga, who is Mrs. James Potter, of St. Paul.

Carl E. Olson received his education in the public schools of Hudson, attending both the grades and high schools and then secured employment on the Chicago, St. Paul, Milwaukee & Omaha railroad. He was employed first as fireman and later as engine-man, remaining with the road nine and one-half years. He decided to adopt the vocation of farming and in the

spring of 1911 he purchased a farm of three hundred and fifty acres in Dane Prairie township, this county, where he has since lived and which he intends as his permanent home. He divides his interest between general farming and the raising of live stock, and succeeds well in his undertaking.

Carl E. Olson was married on December 23, 1907, to Marie Minge, born in Minneapolis, a daughter of Ole A. and Lena Minge, they being early settlers on the farm where Mr. Olson now makes his home. To Mr. and Mrs. Olson has been born one child, a little daughter, Vivian, who died in early infancy. Mr. Olson is a Republican in politics, but chooses to vote independently in matters of local government. He holds his fraternal affiliation with the Yeomen of America, and gives evidence of commendable interest in the affairs of the order. Mr. Olson is among the younger farmers of this section and as he employs only modern methods in conducting the work of his farm, he promises to make a pleasing success of his venture. Both he and Mrs. Olson move in the best social circles of the community and are much liked by all.

THOMAS J. TVEDTE.

Thomas J. Tvedte, a farmer of Buse township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, is one of a number of citizens of that county who hail from the land of Norway. Mr. Tvedte is a son of Jergen and Sigrid (Underland) Tvedte, and was born on January 6, 1854. Both parents were also Norwegians by birth and in 1877, two years after the immediate subject of this sketch had emigrated to this country, they came over to join him. The father purchased a farm of one hundred and twenty acres in Buse township, this county, which is now the home of Thomas J. The father died on that farm in 1902 and the mother is still living at the advanced age of eighty-three years, remarkably well preserved for one of her age. Both Jergen Tvedte and his wife were reared in the Lutheran faith and lived honorable and useful lives in accordance with its teachings.

Thomas J. Tvedte is the eldest of a family of seven children, the next in order of birth being Martha, who is Mrs. Theodore Quackenbush of Melrose, Wisconsin. Hans is a farmer and located in Montana, and Lars remains in his native Norway, engaged also in agriculture. Cena married Arn Huseby and lives in Dane Prairie township. Julia, deceased, was the wife of Peter Hanson, of Barnesville, this state, and Jergen, the youngest of the family, died on the family homestead in Buse township. Thomas J. Tvedte received his education in the public schools of his native land and was raised on a farm. He emigrated to America in 1875 and settled in Dane county, Wisconsin, where for two years he hired out at farm labor. In 1877 he came to Otter Tail county, at the time his parents did and secured

employment in Fergus Falls, where he remained for eleven years. In 1888 he purchased the homestead of the father, and has since resided there. He raises such grains as are favored by the best farmers of this section and also prepares each year a goodly number of cattle for the market. Both Mr. Tvedte and his wife are devout members of the Lutheran church and politically, he endorses the platform of the Democratic party. He takes especial interest in local matters and has held various positions on the school board.

Mr. Tvedte was married in 1881 to Martha Hjeltas, also a native of Norway and a daughter of Daniel and Sanva (Edwin) Hjeltas. The parents were of the farmer class and neither ever left their native land. Mrs. Tvedte came to this country in 1877 and first located in Dane county, Wisconsin, later coming to Minnesota, where she was married. Mr. and Mrs. Tvedte have three children, the eldest of whom is George, a farmer in Canada; Daniel remains at home, and Lawrence resides in St. Paul, where he is a teamster. Mr. Tvedte's life of honesty and industry has won for him the sincere liking of those with whom he comes in contact and it is pleasant to note his efforts are meeting with material success.

RAY BRYANT.

Following is a short sketch of the family of Ray Bryant, a progressive farmer of Buse township, Otter Tail county, and youngest son of Zebina Zenos Bryant who for many years was an honored physician of Champlin, Minnesota. After the death of Doctor Bryant, his widow and son, Ray, came to Otter Tail county, where they have since made their home.

Zebina Zenos Bryant was born in Truxton, Cortland county, New York, April 7, 1839, son of Zenos and Mary Ann (Ryder) Bryant, both of whom were natives of the United States, the mother of Irish parentage and the father of Scotch descent. Zenos Bryant was in his earlier manhood a minister of the Baptist church and in later life he became a physician. When past middle age he moved to Iowa where he practiced his profession and also served as a minister of the Gospel. He died at his home in Iowa, where his wife had died some years previous and he had again married, this second wife surviving him. There were six children in the family, four of whom attained years of maturity. The eldest of these was Zabina Zenos, father of Ray Bryant; Frances died in Iowa; Earl is a minister in the Methodist Episcopal church and located at Portland, Oregon, and Alice

Zebina Zenos Bryant received his elementary education in the public schools at his home in New York state and did not take up the study of medicine until after he was married and had children. He was graduated from the Hahnemann Medical College at the close of the semester of 1880-81 and began the practice of his chosen profession in Sumner, Iowa, where

he lived until 1892. In that year he moved his family to South Dakota and settled in Roberts county, near Sisseton. There he assumed his practice and the sons managed the homestead. Later the family moved to Champlin, this state, where Doctor Bryant retired on account of failing health, and his death occurred there November 27, 1904. Both Doctor Bryant and his wife were members of the Methodist Episcopal church and he held fraternal affiliation in the Masons and also with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and Knights of Pythias. Doctor Bryant was a man of great natural capabilities, of broad sympathies and kindly nature and in the years allotted to him he accomplished much of lasting good.

Doctor Bryant was married on July 12, 1870, to Margaret A. Harriman, a native of New Hampshire, and daughter of Hezekiah B. and Hannah (Bailey) Harriman. The latter was the daughter of Thomas and Jemima Bailey, both born in Hopkinton, New Hampshire, and of English parentage. Thomas Bailey was a carpenter and farmer and in 1868 he left New England and moved to Waverly, Iowa, where he passed his remaining years on a small farm. He was a member of the Baptist church and she of the Congregational and both were highly esteemed by those who knew them. There were three children in their family: Frank, the first born, died in infancy; Margaret A. became the wife of Doctor Bryant, and Helen is the widow of George Ellis and still resides in Waverly, Iowa.

After the death of Doctor Bryant, Mrs. Bryant, together with her son, Ray, left their home in Champlin, this state, and became citizens of Otter Tail county. They purchased a farm of two hundred and sixty-seven acres in Buse township, remodeled the residence and other buildings and made great improvement in the general appearance of the farm. Ray Bryant is the youngest of a family of four children, namely: Grace, deceased, who was the wife of Edward Gibson and the mother of three children; Charles died at the age of twenty-one, while the family was living in South Dakota, and Mabel is the wife of Benjamin Seymour and resides in Champlin, this state.

Ray Bryant was born on December 22, 1878, and received his education in the public schools near his home, graduating from Browns Valley high school. Later he went to a business college at Faribault for special education along practical business lines and then went to Minneapolis, where he learned the milling business in some of the big mills for which that city is famous. In 1911 he came to Otter Tail county, where he has since given his attention to farming. He is thoroughly up-to-date in his methods and is uniformly successful with his crops. Politically, Mr. Bryant is a Republican, although not especially interested in the subject. He is unmarried and he and his mother have their home together.

JOHN E. KROGSTAD.

John E. Krogstad, prominent farmer and cattleman of Buse township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, is a native of Norway, born at Selba, in Trondhjem, August 13, 1876, the eldest son of Ingelbregt and Johanna (Stokke) Krogstad. The parents were born in that same locality and are still living on the family home place at Selba, both past sixty years of age. The father was a soldier in the Norwegian army, but was never in active service. Both parents are devout members of the Lutheran faith and to them were born six children. Mollie, the second child, died at the age of seventeen years; Ole came to this country and lives in the state of Washington, where he is engaged in farming, while Michael, Mary and Christena remain in Norway with the parents.

John E. Krogstad was educated in the Lutheran schools of his native land and was confirmed in that church when fourteen years of age. For about four years after his school days were over he was employed at farm labor and in 1896 emigrated to America. He landed at Boston on April 8, of that year, and came directly to this state, locating at Carlisle. He came to this country in company with a cousin about two years older and they secured work on a farm near Carlisle, where Mr. Krogstad remained for some two and one-half years. The following six years he spent on the farm of Nils Thompson, in Dane Prairie township, and then desiring to farm in his own right, he rented a farm for three years, same being located in the township mentioned. However, he gave up that venture to take employment on the farm of J. O. Billings, in Buse township, where he worked for four years, and directly after the death of Mr. Billings, he was sent by the executor of the estate to Tappen, North Dakota, to assume the foremanship of the Billings ranch at that place. He remained in North Dakota three years and then returned to this state and in partnership with L. L. Riley purchased the Billings farm in Buse township, Otter Tail county, where he had previously lived. This farm contains three hundred and fifteen acres and was in an excellent state of cultivation. There were twenty-six buildings on the farm, all well adapted to the particular needs for which erected, but Mr. Krogstad has added a large cement silo, making without assistance, right on the farm, all of the seventeen hundred and two cement blocks employed in its construction. Mr. Krogstad does some general farming, but puts his best efforts on his cattle. He is making a specialty of full-blood Polled-Angus cattle and the season of 1916 finds him with a herd of ninety-six of this pure strain in addition to sixty head of graded cattle. These latter are principally for beef purposes and he has on his farm a slaughter house where from six to eight cattle are prepared for the market each week. In addition to the time required with his own interests on the

farm, Mr. Krogstad is also known as a buyer of some magnitude, shipping several carloads of cattle in the course of the year. He is also a director in the local telephone company and is keenly interested in anything which makes for the general advancement of community life.

Mr. Krogstad was married on May 16, 1914, to Ellen Peterson, a native of Norway, whose parents still live in their native land. Mrs. Krogstad emigrated to America in April, of 1907, and has passed her life since then in this state. Both Mr. and Mrs. Krogstad are faithful members of the Lutheran church and give generously of their means toward the support of the local organization. Mr. Krogstad endorses the principles of the Republican party, but has ever been so engrossed with his own interests as to find but little time for outside claims. Mr. Krogstad has succeeded above the average and fully merits that which he holds, for he is possessed of worthy ambition and right principles and this coupled with an unfailing industry and remarkable foresight, has placed him where he is. He stands high in the estimation of friends and business acquaintances.

GUSTAV SCHMIDT.

Gustav Schmidt is well known throughout Otter Tail county, Minnesota, as the leading hardware merchant of Underwood, having been in business there for some fourteen years, or since 1902. When he first purchased the stock and building, the stock was invoiced at twenty-two hundred dollars and the business has so prospered that the present stock, exclusive of all farm machinery, engines for farm purposes, etc., will easily figure up to five thousand dollars. Mr. Schmidt employs three people and his business wears a general air of prosperity which is agreeable to see. Mr. Schmidt possesses business ability of a high order and his honorable methods of dealing with his customers has won him many friends.

Gustav Schmidt was born in Germany, June 27, 1861, son of Gottlieb and Wilhelmina Schmidt. Both parents were also natives of the same section, where he was a farmer, and passed their entire lives in that region. He died in 1870, and after his death the mother came to this country and died about 1900, having never remarried. Both were members of the Lutheran church and most excellent people. Mr. Schmidt is one of a family of four children, the eldest of whom, August, died in Germany, a veteran of the Franco-Prussian War. Carl lives in Wisconsin and is a stone and brick mason by trade, and Julius, the youngest of the family, died on his farm in Otter Tail county, about six miles east of Underwood.

Gustav Schmidt was educated in the public schools of his native land and was brought up to work. He fulfilled the time of his compulsory military service, but his country was in no action during those years. In

1887 he came to America, joining his brother, who was located in Wisconsin, and there he secured work by the day. He later went to South Dakota and hired out to farm work by the month for a couple of years and then took up farming on his own account on rented land. He later purchased a farm of one hundred and sixty acres in this state, where he lived for four years and sold out and came to Otter Tail county. He purchased a farm of one hundred and nine acres in Tordenskjold township, where he lived for two years and then disposed of his farming interests and became interested in the hardware business.

Mr. Schmidt endorses the platform of the Republican party, although taking no especial interest in such matters, and he holds his religious membership with the Lutheran church. He has served as a member of the town board and has in other ways given evidence of his interest in all matters pertaining to the advancement of any phase of community life. Mr. Schmidt has been thrice married. His first wife was Matilda Geide, who died some six or seven years after marriage, leaving four small children. Of these Emma is a clerk in her father's store; Pauline and Reinholdt are at home, and the youngest died in infancy. Mr. Schmidt married Bertha Washer for his second wife; there being no issue to that union. His third wife was Mrs. Anna Hoyer, and to them one child was born, but died early in life. Mr. Schmidt is acknowledged to be one of the leading business men of Underwood and stands high in the estimation of both business acquaintances and personal friends.

OLAF LEIN.

Olaf Lein, a farmer living on the outskirts of Underwood, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, is a native of the state of Iowa, born in Winneshiek county, June 12, 1872, son of John and Marit (Randahl) Lein. John Lein's parents both lived and died in their native Norway, and while the parents of Marit Randahl were also Norwegians by birth, they in 1870 or 1871 emigrated to America with their daughter and her husband. They all lived for a time in Iowa and after a few years the Randahl grandparents came to Otter Tail county, where they bought a farm located just west of where the village of Underwood now stands. There the grandparents spent the remainder of their days.

Both of Mr. Lein's parents were born in Norway and were there married and in the early seventies, as before stated, came to this country. At their home in Iowa he worked for a time on the railroad and then rented a fruit farm, where he spent some four years. About 1878 or 1879 he moved to Wilkin county, this state, where he purchased a farm of one hundred and sixty acres, thirteen miles west of Fergus Falls. The land was

good, but the buildings very poor indeed, and he gradually improved them until he brought them up to good condition. He later sold out and moved to Fork, located in the northwest portion of this state, and there operated a small general store and was appointed postmaster, which position he held for a great many years. The mother's death occurred at that place in 1912 and the father then disposed of his little store to a son-in-law and moved to Warren, this state, where he entered into partnership with a friend and they are now doing a real-estate business. Both John Lein and his wife were members of the Lutheran church from childhood and in that faith have reared their family. There were originally eleven children in their family, six of whom grew to maturity. Inga was the wife of Theodore Sjordal, and died at her home in Underwood; Nicolena married I. Ornis and lives at Fork, this state; Carl was from his boyhood a wanderer and his whereabouts at the present time are unknown; John lives at Warren, this state, where he is engaged in farming, and Christena is the wife of G. H. Gunheim.

Olaf Lein was the fourth child in the order of birth, and at the age of two years was taken into the home of his Grandfather Randahl, who reared him. He attended the public schools of Underwood and was taught practical farming on the grandfather's home place just west of Underwood, which is now Mr. Lein's home. On the death of the grandfather, Mr. Lein came into possession of the home. This at first had contained eighty acres, but the grandfather had sold some three acres into town lots and Mr. Lein has platted and sold five additional acres, so his farm now consists of seventy-two acres. This is all in good condition, well improved and with good buildings, and he conducts a general farming business in addition to raising considerable live stock.

On November 15, 1893, Mr. Lein was united in marriage with Berit Sands, daughter of Thore and Guri (Holt) Sands, both natives of Trondhjem, Norway. They lived there several years after marriage, or until the time of the mother's death, in 1881, when the father, with his four children emigrated to America. They settled in Sverdrup township, this county, where he followed the carpenter trade and later took up farming. He lived for a time at Underwood but now resides in North Dakota, having retired from active duties. Mrs. Lein is the second child of the family, the eldest being Peter, who was an engineer and farmer in Oregon, where he died; Ragna is the wife of Gus Wanstedt and lives at White Deer, South Dakota, while Olaf, the youngest of the family, is a farmer in Canada.

Mr. and Mrs. Lein have a family of six children, namely: Florence, born on March 26, 1895; Thoralf, July 18, 1896; Jarl, September 16, 1898; Leonard, April 6, 1902; Thelma, June 2, 1903, and Goodwin, Febru-

ary 19, 1910. Mr. Lein takes a commendable interest in all that affects the life of the community and is independent so far as politics are concerned, voting for the man of his choice. His life has been such that he stands high in the regard of those who know him.

TOSTEN TOSTENSON.

Tosten Tostenson, who is an enterprising farmer of Tordenskjold township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, is a native of Stavanger, Norway, where his birth occurred on July 21, 1854. Mr. Tostenson is a son of Tosten and Mallena (Knutson) Tostenson, who, after their marriage in Norway, lived there for some years, or until 1862, when they came with their family to America.

After living for one year in Rock county, Wisconsin, the family moved to Otter Tail county, Minnesota, and homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of land in Tordenskjold township. This farm was cleared and improved in many ways and a log cabin had been erected, in which the family lived. Mr. Tostenson died in 1886, while his wife had passed away three years previously, in 1883. Both were devout members of the Tordenskjold township Lutheran church, and were among the founders of the church. Before coming to the United States Tosten Tostenson, Sr., had served in the Norwegian army. He and his wife were the parents of seven children: Kari, who became the wife of Seamon Tostenson, lives in Battle Lake, Minnesota; Martha is the wife of a Mr. Thompson; Breta married Albert Josephson, and they live in Tordenskjold township; Mallena, the wife of Hans Havobson, and they live in Dane Prairie township; Martha, who died in Norway before the family emigrated to America; Knut, who died at the home of his brother, Tosten.

Tosten Tostenson, Jr., was educated in the common schools of Norway, and also attended school after coming to Minnesota. He was reared on the farm and about 1880 engaged in farming for himself. He first homesteaded one hundred and twenty acres of land, and later bought forty acres more. Subsequently he sold his first farm and purchased a tract of one hundred and sixty acres in Tordenskjold township, where he is now living. He has made all the improvements on this farm and has cleared the land and put it under cultivation. Mr. Tostenson has made a remarkable success as a stock breeder and general farmer.

In 1879 Tosten Tostenson, Jr., was married to Breta Peterson, a native of Norway, who was born at Stavanger, and who is a daughter of Thorberon Peterson and wife. Mrs. Tostenson accompanied her parents to America when she was eight years old. The family settled first in Wisconsin, but removed to Otter Tail county in 1871. Mr. and Mrs. Tosten

Tostenson are the parents of ten children: Claus, a farmer living near Battle Lake, Minnesota; Monne, also a farmer living near Battle Lake; Carl, William, Theodore, Andrew and Martin are living at home; Thea, who is the wife of Herman Miller, lives in Dane Prairie township; Mary, the wife of Edwin Larson, of Tordenskjold township; Emma, the wife of Elmer Vincell, lives in Minneapolis. Mr. and Mrs. Tostenson have five grandchildren.

Since coming to America, Mr. Tostenson has been identified with the Republican party. He has held practically all of the local offices in this township. Both Mr. and Mrs. Tostenson and family are devout members of the Lutheran church.

KNUT OLSON.

Knut Olson, a prosperous farmer of Otter Tail county, Minnesota, who was born eighteen miles out of Christiania, Norway, June 27, 1841, is a son of Ole E. and Osta Olson.

Mr. Olson's parents were both natives of Norway and there grew up and were married. After the death of his mother, Knut Olson came to America with his father in 1866. A little later they settled in Mower county, Minnesota, and afterward the father, whose death occurred in 1874, joined his son in Otter Tail county, where he had removed some time previously. Mr. Olson was one of seven children born to his parents, namely: Ingebrit, a farmer by occupation, died in Mower county, Minnesota; Thor, also a farmer, died in North Dakota; Sarah, the wife of Eric Ingebritson, died in Norway; Chester, who married Nils Harls, died in Minnesota; Mary was married in Norway and there died; Ole, a farmer living near Dawson, Minnesota, and Knut, the immediate subject of this review.

Knut Olson received his early education in the public schools of Norway, and after coming to America with his father, in 1866, settled first in Mower county, Minnesota, where he worked for his brother on a farm. Two years later he came to Otter Tail county, when there was not a house on the present site of Fergus Falls. Here, in section 4, of Tordenskjold township, he homesteaded one hundred and sixty-five acres of land, which was mainly prairie, but upon which there was some timber standing. Here he built a log house, and has lived on this farm ever since, clearing his land and improving it in various ways. In the meantime, however, he has erected modern farm buildings and is engaged in general farming. Mr. Olson is a stockholder in various enterprises.

In 1872 Knut Olson was married to Sarah Erickson, a native of Norway, and the daughter of Ole Erickson, and to this union there have been

born ten children: Edward E., a farmer of Tordenskjold township; Anna, living on a homestead in Dakota; Emma, the wife of Ed Nelson, lives in Dakota; Clara died at the age of twenty-three years; Neal, a farmer living in Dakota; Minnie, the wife of Harry Ingebretson, and they live in Dakota; Christian is a farmer living in Dakota; Sanford, a homestead farmer, and Hulda and Carol, living at home with their parents.

Mr. Olson was a Republican in politics for many years, but is now independent in his vote. Mr. Olson and family are earnest and devoted members of the Lutheran church.

EVEN SETHER.

Even Sether, a prosperous farmer and cattleman of Otter Tail county, was born near Trondjhem, Norway, September 8, 1839, a son of Even and Olong (Sether) Sether, both of whom were born, reared and died in their native land of Norway. Mr. Sether's father was a farmer and landowner, and both he and his wife were earnest and devoted members of the Lutheran church. They were the parents of seven children: Lars, a miller and farmer living in Norway; Jens, a retired farmer of Norway; Ole, who died in infancy; Even, the immediate subject of this sketch; Ole, deceased; Carrie, deceased, and Guri, also deceased.

Even Sether received his early education in the public schools of Norway, afterwards supplementing this by attendance in a military school until he was twenty-three or twenty-four years of age. After leaving school he began work in his father's mill, where he worked until 1866, when he came to America. After arriving in this country, Mr. Sether settled first in Fillmore county, Minnesota, where he engaged in the milling business for four or five years, and continued in this business in Minneapolis and elsewhere until 1881. In the latter year he came to Otter Tail county and settled at Underwood. Mr. Sether had previously purchased a farm of one hundred and eighty acres in Tordenskjold township, which was partially improved and under cultivation, having some buildings on it, but Mr. Sether has erected a new barn and other farm buildings, and has also repaired his house. He is extensively engaged in the breeding of Poland China hogs and Shorthorn cattle, and is otherwise engaged in general farming.

Mr. Sether was one of the organizers of the Farmers Mercantile Corporation, and in fact, was the promoter. He was elected clerk of this corporation, but is no longer serving in this capacity.

In 1896 Even Sether was married to Gertrude Aune, a native of Norway, and the daughter of Ole Aune, and to this marriage have been born five children, Edwin, Oliver, Olga, Oscar and Iva.

Politically, Mr. Sether is a Democrat, and has served in every local

office within the gift of the people of his township, except that of township treasurer, filling all these positions with credit to himself and to the constituents to whom he was responsible.

PETER EMIL HOLBECK.

Among the prosperous young farmers of Dane Prairie township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, is Peter Emil Holbeck, who is a native of Tordenskjold township, Otter Tail county, where he was born on July 28, 1882, the son of Peter N. and Ingebor (Peterson) Holbeck, the former of whom was born in Denmark, August 12, 1849, and who is the son of Nils and Karen (Olson) Holbeck. A biographical sketch of Peter N. Holbeck is presented on another page of this volume, to which the reader is referred for further facts relating to the ancestry of Peter Emil Holbeck.

Peter Emil Holbeck was educated in school district No. 162, of Tordenskjold township, and was reared on his father's farm. He remained at home until 1904, when he was married and he then rented a farm for three years in Tordenskjold township, subsequently purchasing one hundred and sixty acres just over the line in Dane Prairie township. In the meantime, Mr. Holbeck has erected a new house, a new barn and has made many other improvements on the farm. He was one of the incorporators of the Otter Tail County Co-operative Store Company and also one of the incorporators of the creamery.

On July 16, 1904, Peter Emil Holbeck was married to Inga Christine Mortenson, a sister of Martin Mortenson, a history of whom is presented elsewhere in this volume. Mr. and Mrs. Holbeck have one son, Herbert Marion, born on April 9, 1905.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Holbeck are members of the Free Lutheran church. Fraternally, Mr. Holbeck is a member of the Danish Brotherhood. He is independent in politics.

OLE ERICKSON.

Ole Erickson was born in Norway, November 29, 1851, the son of Berger and Oline (Olson) Erickson, the father born on December 4, 1825, and the mother born on April 12, 1833. Berger and Oline Erickson, in the year 1852, came to America, making the voyage on a sailing vessel, which required more than nine weeks for the journey. After landing at New York, Berger Erickson and wife went by rail to the city of Milwaukee and from there, by ox-team, they went on to White Water, Wisconsin, where they lived for three years and then went to Adams county, Wisconsin, where they bought a farm, which they improved and where they lived for

the next eighteen years. In 1871 the entire family moved, by ox-team and covered wagons, across the woods and prairies to Otter Tail county, Minnesota, where they bought one hundred and twenty acres of state land in section 36, Dane Prairie township. At this time the land of Dane Prairie township was heavy timber land and Berger Erickson set out to bring his land under cultivation and to build such structures as a log house and a small log shed for a barn, after which he broke up the land and engaged as a general farmer. Berger Erickson improved his farm and built new buildings as time went on and then bought forty acres of land adjoining, where the family lived until the year 1881, and then Berger Erickson took up a homestead in section 25, a short distance north of his original home. At this place Berger Erickson lived for six or seven years and then sold his home place to his son, Ole Erickson, the subject of this sketch, who now lives on the place.

On selling his land to his son, Berger Erickson retired from active life and now, a hale and hearty man, at the age of ninety years, often walks the distance of two miles to the town of Dalton. Oline (Olson) Erickson died on March 17, 1911. Berger Erickson, during the Civil War, served about a year with Company D, Eighteenth Regiment, Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, taking part in several engagements while in the service. Berger Erickson was one of the founders and builders of the Lutheran Synod church, his wife also having been a worker in the same church. To Berger and Oline Erickson were born the following children: Ole, the subject of this sketch; Amelia, who married L. A. Rustad and now lives in Virginia; Sophia Pauline, who married Andrew Johnson, and who is deceased; Bernhard, who is a farmer and landowner of Dane Prairie township; Christiana, who is the widow of C. G. Peterson and lives at Barrett, Grant county, Minnesota; Cornelius, a farmer of Tumuli township; Bertha, who married Dr. O. A. Norman, and who died in 1914; Otto, who is a carpenter of Superior, Wisconsin; Anna, who is an employee of the state hospital at Fergus Falls, Minnesota; Karen, who married Adolph Glorvigen, and lives at Fergus Falls, Minnesota; Lena, who lives with her brother, Ole, and two children who died in infancy.

Ole Erickson was educated in the public schools of his native country and then came with his father to the state of Minnesota, where he helped his father on the farm and then bought the home place, of one hundred and sixty acres, in Dane Prairie township, on which place he added many improvements, among which was a new house, a new barn and other necessary buildings, and then engaged in the pursuit of general farming and stock raising.

Ole Erickson has never married, but has a younger sister who acts as

his housekeeper. Mr. Erickson is a member of the Lutheran church and takes a prominent place in the work. In politics, Ole Erickson is independent, preferring to support all candidates that stand for good citizenship and advancement of community interests.

E. J. HANSON.

Born on the farm where he is now living in Tordenskjold township, February 26, 1877, E. J. Hanson, a well-known and prosperous farmer of Otter Tail county, Minnesota, is a son of Nils Hansen Loken and Annie (Monstadt) Loken, both of whom were born in Norway, the former on January 25, 1837, and the latter on March 3, 1836.

Mr. Hanson's parents grew up in their native land and were married in that country and had two children before coming to America. During his active life, Nils Hansen Loken was a shoemaker by trade, but wishing to improve his condition, came to America about 1871, and for a time lived in Red Wing, Minnesota. After acquiring an ox-team he drove to Otter Tail county, settling in Clitherall township, where he lived for three or four years. Mrs. Hanson's mother, Ingebor Monsen, accompanied her daughter and son-in-law to this country, and after he arrived in Minnesota, took up a homestead in Clitherall township, where she lived for some years, her death occurring in Tordenskjold township, at the advanced age of ninety-one years. Nils Hanson later came to Tordenskjold township, where he homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of land in sections 13 and 24. After clearing and improving this place in various ways, he erected handsome modern buildings to replace the log structures which he had first constructed. He and his good wife are both now living retired in their little home. On July 3, 1913, they celebrated their golden wedding anniversary, and at that time entertained many of their descendants, who took part in the celebration. Both are devout members of the Norwegian Lutheran church. To this worthy couple have been born seven children: Hans J., who lives in North Dakota, where he is a farmer; Inga, who is the wife of Hans Olson, also lives in North Dakota; Dina, the first child born in America, married Herman Lillestrand, and they are now living in North Dakota; Hendrick Arnold, a farmer of Tordenskjold township; Mollie, the wife of J. B. Higsdale, a farmer of Tordenskjold township; E. J., the sixth in order of birth, is the immediate subject of this review; Sarah, the wife of Jule Morstad, and they live at Wall Lake, Otter Tail county, Minnesota.

E. J. Hanson received his education in school district No. 71, Otter Tail county and Tordenskjold township, and after leaving school he took up farming, and in 1914 purchased the old homestead, comprising one hun-

dred and sixty acres, besides eighty acres which his father had later bought. Mr. Hanson is engaged in general farming, and is the thresherman for his neighborhood.

On October 25, 1908, E. J. Hanson was married to Mary Hedberg, a native of Sweden, and the daughter of Ole Hedberg, who died in Sweden in 1913. Mrs. Hanson's mother is still living. Mr. and Mrs. E. J. Hanson are the parents of four children, Nils, Arthur, Olive and Edna.

Both Mr. and Mrs. E. J. Hanson are members of the Norwegian Synod church. Mr. Hanson is identified with the Democratic party and has been prominent in local politics, having filled a number of local offices, among which is that of constable.

PETER N. HOLBECK.

Born in Denmark, August 12, 1849, the son of Nils and Karen (Olson) Holbeck, Peter N. Holbeck is one of the enterprising farmers of Tordenskjold township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, and one of its older citizens.

Mr. Holbeck's parents were born in Denmark, and in 1873 came to America to join their son, the subject of this sketch. They settled in what is now Underwood and, although Nils Holbeck was a man sixty-three years old, he homesteaded forty acres in Sverdrup township, the farm which is now occupied by Olaf Lein and part of which is now embraced in the village of Underwood. Later he sold the farm and lived with his son, with whom he died at the age of seventy-five years. His wife had died twelve years previously, in 1875, at the age of sixty-six. They were the parents of four children, of whom Christian lives at Ft. France, Canada, and is retired, being seventy years of age; Christena married Jens Jensen and lives in section 30, of Sverdrup township; Peter N. is the subject of this sketch, and Nils lives in Moorhead, Minnesota, where he is the proprietor of the Columbia hotel.

Educated in the public schools of his native land, Mr. Holbeck worked at almost anything he could find to do until, in 1869, just before he was twenty years old, he came to America. After living for a time at Winona, Minnesota, Mr. Holbeck joined his brother in Otter Tail county and, after his parents came to America, he assisted his father on the homestead, but soon purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land in Tordenskjold township. There was a small house and a small barn on the farm when Mr. Holbeck purchased the land, but only ten acres had been cleared. He cleared the remainder of the farm and added forty-eight acres of land nearby. Within recent years Mr. Holbeck has erected modern buildings and made substantial improvements. He is a general farmer and stockman and is especially interested in raising cattle.

In 1876 Peter N. Holbeck was married to Ingelbor Peterson, a native of Denmark and the daughter of Peter and Ella (Nelson) Larson, who died before Mrs. Holbeck immigrated to America, in 1876. Mr. and Mrs. Peter N. Holbeck have been the parents of six children, Ella, who is at home; Annie, who died at the age of twenty-two years; Emil, who is a farmer in Dane Prairie township; William, Anton and Gullina, who are at home.

Mr. and Mrs. Peter N. Holbeck are prominent members of the Unitarian church. Mr. Holbeck is a Democrat in politics and has served his party and his fellow citizens in the capacity of supervisor twice and as a school director. Mr. Holbeck deserves to rank as one of the foremost citizens of Tordenskjold township and is popular with his neighbors in this community.

JOHANNES P. SCHEI.

Johannes P. Schei, a pioneer citizen of Otter Tail county and one of the best known residents of Tordenskjold township, where he is now living retired, is a native of Norway, born eight miles out of Trondhjem, May 17, 1839. Johannes P. Schei is the son of Peter and Jochimine Schei, who in later life emigrated to America. They died on a farm in Tordenskjold township about 1890 and are buried in the Tordenskjold township cemetery. They were farmers by occupation and had a family of nine children, all of whom came with them to America. Johannes P. was the eldest; Maria died in Norway; Ole lives in Red Wing, Minnesota; Olaf died in Minneapolis; Berit Martha married Aneus Volen and died at Underwood; Paulina died unmarried in Minneapolis; Martin died in Minneapolis; Mary married a Mr. Johnson and lives in Minneapolis; Ever resides near Minneapolis.

Johannes P. Schei was educated in the public schools and, from his boyhood, has been engaged in farming. In 1867 he accompanied his parents to America and, for the next three years, worked on a farm in Goodhue county. Later the family came to Otter Tail county and homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres in Tordenskjold township. This farm was composed altogether of wild land and, after clearing a place, Mr. Schei built a log house, having lived one summer in a wagon. The old log house stood on the site of the present Schei home. Later, Mr. Schei added forty acres of land in Dane Prairie township, and still later two hundred acres more southeast in Tordenskjold township, erecting houses and barns on these various farms. For some years Mr. Schei has been living retired.

On July 4, 1867, Johannes P. Schei was married in Goodhue county, Minnesota, to Barceline Rosvold. Mr. and Mrs. Schei have been the parents of ten children: Olaf is a merchant at Fergus Falls; Julia died at the

age of six years; Karen married Albert Anderson and lives in Dane Prairie township; Julius is a farmer in Tordenskjold township; Joseph died at the age of twenty-seven; Ole is in the real-estate business in Portland, Oregon; Martin is a farmer in Idaho; John G. is the manager of the home farm; Olena died at the age of twenty years; Julia lives at home with her parents.

John G. Schei was born on April 4, 1883, on the farm where he now lives and was educated in school district No. 20. Mr. Schei was reared on the farm and, since he was old enough, has been operating the home farm. He is independent in politics.

Johannes P. Schei, who is an ardent Republican, served three years as a school director in this township. Both he and his wife are devout members of the Lutheran church.

J. B. HIGHDALE.

Born at Evergreen, Ontonagon county, Michigan, March 17, 1865. J. B. Highdale, a prosperous farmer of Tordenskjold township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, has spent practically all his life on the farm where he now lives, and which he now owns. It is his father's old homestead farm. Mr. Highdale is a son of Swen and Anna (Lind) Jacobson, who were born in Norway, and grew up in that country. After their marriage they came to America in the spring of 1864, and located at Evergreen, Michigan, where Swen Jacobson worked in the mines a few years. Afterward he and his family removed to Calumet, Michigan, where they lived for three years. They then moved to the state of Missouri, where they remained a few years, living near St. Louis while in that state, and there they engaged in farming. Subsequently, however Mr. Jacobson returned to Calumet, Michigan, and lived there for two or three years, or until 1871, when the family removed to Otter Tail county, Minnesota. Here they homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of land in Tordenskjold township, and within the next few years the land was cleared and the dug-out, which the family used for a home, was replaced by a log house, in which they lived for some time, and here Swen Jacobson died on April 30, 1902. He served several terms as township trustee and as a member of the board of supervisors, as well as in several school offices. Politically, he was identified with the Prohibition party. Both he and his wife were formerly members of the Lutheran church, but in later years were identified with the Methodist church. Mrs. Jacobson is still living, at the age of eighty-three years. Swen and Anna Jacobson were the parents of five children, of whom J. B. Highdale is the eldest; Willie died at the age of three years; Minnie is the wife of Ed Anderson, and they live at Cresswell, Oregon; Annie married William Robertson, and lives at Ashby, Minnesota; Emma died at the age of five years.

J. B. Highdale was educated in the public schools of Otter Tail county and was reared on the farm in this county. When he was old enough he took up farming on the home farm, and has lived here ever since. From time to time he bought out the interests of the other heirs in the home farm, and in the meantime has made many improvements upon the farm, including the erection of a good barn. He is a general farmer and stock breeder and has specialized in purebred stock.

In the fall of 1902 J. B. Highdale was married to Mollie Hanson, a daughter of Nels Hanson Loken. Mr. and Mrs. Highdale are the parents of seven children: Alvin, who died at the age of five; Emma, Lillian, Corinne, Martin, Selmer and Judith, who are all living at home with their parents.

Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Highdale are members of the Lutheran Synod church, in which they take an active interest. Mr. Highdale is independent in politics, but has never taken an especial interest in political matters. He is a highly respected and well-known citizen of the township and county where he has lived for so many years.

HANS GILBERTSON.

Hans Gilbertson, who is a prosperous farmer of Clitherall township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, was born at Eidsvold, Norway, November 26, 1843, and is the son of Gulbrand Olson and Karen Larsdatter. Mr. Gilbertson's parents spent their entire lives in Eidsvold, Norway, where they were born and reared. The father was a farmer and landowner and a soldier in the Norwegian cavalry, although he never participated in any war. Mr. Gilbertson's father and mother were members of the Lutheran church. The former was born in 1814 and died in 1903, and the latter was born in 1804 and died in 1852. After the death of his first wife, Guldrand Olson was married to Olia Larsdatter, a sister of his first wife, who was born in 1804 and died in 1852. After the death of his first wife, Gulbrand family, two daughters, who died early in life; Ole, who was a farmer and logger and who operated a saw-mill, died in Norway; Hans, the subject of this sketch, and Christian, who, after coming to America in 1868, settled in Clitherall township on a homestead and died there in 1900.

Hans Gilbertson was educated in the public schools of Norway and, after coming to America, spent a few months in the public schools of this country. He worked on a farm until 1869, and then came to America by steamship. It required a month to make the voyage from Christiania. After living in Frontenac, Canada, for a few months, Mr. Gilbertson came to Otter Tail county with his brother in 1869. He homesteaded one hundred and sixty-six acres of land in section 4, of Clitherall township, where

he now lives. When this land was homesteaded it was nothing more than wild prairie land. In the spring of 1870 Mr. Gilbertson built a log house where his present house stands. Later he added other buildings and in 1897 replaced the log house with a modern dwelling. He also has a good barn, which is the third on the farm. Hans Gilbertson is a general farmer and stockman. He is a stockholder in the Battle Lake Creamery Company and vice-president of the Farmers Elevator Company. For eight years he was president of the creamery.

In 1882 Hans Gilbertson was married to Adeline Corser, a native of Wisconsin, and the daughter of John and Electa Corser, who were old settlers in Wisconsin. Mr. and Mrs. Gilbertson have three children, Karen, who married Paul Buran and lives in Roseau, Minnesota; Raymond, who is unmarried and engaged in the printing business at Roseau, and Gretchen, who is eighteen years old and a student in the St. Cloud Normal School.

Hans Gilbertson served for twenty-two years as township clerk. He has also served as constable, as treasurer of the school district and as secretary of the Free Lutheran church, of which he and his wife are members. Politically, he is identified with the Republican party.

CARL THORSTONSON.

One of the most successful farmers of Clitherall township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, is Carl Thorstonson, who was born in Norway, near Christiania, October 13, 1846, and who is the son of Thorston Hermanson and Elsie Mickellsdatter.

Mr. Thorstonson's parents died in Norway. His father was a farmer and a landowner and he and his wife were members of the Lutheran church. They had eight sons, Halvor, who died on the old homestead in Norway; Andreas, who died in infancy; Jens, who came to America, served in the Civil War, and promoted to captain, but never returned; Andreas, who was a soldier in Norway; Edward, who is a farmer in Norway; Johan, who died at the age of seven years; Carl, the subject of this sketch, and Hans, who was a farmer and died in Clitherall township.

Carl Thorstonson was educated in the public schools and reared on the farm. When he was twenty years old, he came to America, in 1866, and, after stopping in Goodhue county, Minnesota, for a time, came to Otter Tail county in the spring of 1870 and homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres in sections 20 and 21, of Clitherall township. Mr. Thorstonson made the journey from Goodhue county to St. Paul on foot. He then came by rail to St. Cloud and then by stage to Otter Tail county. The Indians were numerous at that time, but were always friendly and on good terms with the white settlers.

Mr. Thorstonson's farm consisted principally of wild prairie land with the exception of a few popple groves. He constructed a dugout thirty rods south of his present buildings and engaged in breaking the soil. He was able to plow five acres of the land the first summer, and the second summer six additional acres. Finally he purchased a yoke of oxen and things went more rapidly after that. He was soon able to build a log house, where his present commodious and comfortable house stands. This was built in 1900. About 1895 he also erected a good barn. Mr. Thorstonson is a general farmer and stockman. He is a stockholder in the Farmers Elevator Company and also in the Farmers Mutual Telephone Company. He has bought land in addition to his original farm and now has altogether two hundred and eighty acres.

In 1873 Carl Thorstonson was married to Mina Hanson, a native of Norway and the daughter of Hans Hanson. Mr. and Mrs. Thorstonson have ten children, Thorston, who lives at home; Eliza, who is a milliner at Battle Lake; Josephine, who married Carl Finstadt and lives in Norwegian Grove; Hans, who is a wheat buyer and lives at Northwood; Clara, who married James Herman and lives in Day Creek, Minnesota; Sarah, who married Henry Scott and lives in Clitherall township; Kelmer, who is a wheat buyer at Ashby; Lawrence, who lives at home; Ole, who is a clerk at Pelican Rapids, and May, who is a student in the Battle Lake high school.

Mr. and Mrs. Thorstonson and family are members of the Synod Lutheran church. Mr. Thorstonson votes the Republican ticket, but has never been especially active in politics and has never aspired to office. He is a good farmer and a good citizen and enjoys the confidence of all of his neighbors.

ED K. EVANSON.

Born on the farm where he now lives in Clitherall township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota. Ed K. Evanson is the son of Knut and Ingeborg (Lein) Evanson. Mr. Evanson was born on September 11, 1873, and is now in the prime of life.

Knut Evanson was born on November 11, 1835, at Hamsedahl, Norway, and was the son of Evan Anderson Grondal and Annie Guttormson. Knut Evanson's parents were born in Norway and were married there. In 1862, with their four children, they came to America and settled in Goodhue county, Minnesota, where Knut Evanson's father purchased a farm and lived until his death. Knut was the second of four children born to his parents, Andrew, who died in Nebraska; Gertrude, who married Rudolph Borchert and lives in North Dakota; and Anna, who is the widow of Knut Fuglie and lives at Ashby, Minnesota.

Educated in the public schools of his native land, Knut Evanson was reared on the farm and was twenty-six years old when he came to America with his father and mother. After living in Goodhue county, Minnesota, for six years, he moved to Grant county in 1868 and lived there for one year. The next year he moved to Otter Tail county and homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of land in sections 19 and 20, of Clitherall township. This land was then wild and there were only two settlers in the neighborhood. The Indians were numerous but always friendly. Mr. Evanson built a log house which was his only residence for many years. He cleared the land and later purchased one hundred and forty acres adjoining the original homestead. As time passed, he improved the buildings and in later life rented the farm to his son, Ed K. In 1906 he sold the homestead and purchased one hundred and forty acres where he now lives. He is a general farmer and is now living retired. Both he and his wife are members of the Lutheran Synod church. Mr. Evanson presented the land to the church, upon which the present building is erected and has served as trustee of the church ever since. He is a Republican in politics and has served as treasurer in his school district.

Knut Evanson was married on July 16, 1867, to Ingeborg Lein, a native of Norway and the daughter of Evan and Bergetta (Tollefson) Lein. In 1861 the family had come to America and settled in Goodhue county and in 1867 they moved to Grant county, where Mrs. Knut Evanson's father died. Her mother came on to Otter Tail county and in 1869 homesteaded a farm. She died in the spring of 1905, at the age of ninety-five years.

The venerable Knut Evanson is still living at the age of eighty years. His wife is also living and was seventy years old in the spring of 1915. Mr. and Mrs. Knut Evanson have been the parents of four children: Evan, who lives in Chicago, Illinois, and is the manager of a clothing factory; Ed K., the subject of this sketch; Anna, who is a music teacher in her home neighborhood, and Thosten, who died in the fall of 1914.

Ed K. Evanson received a liberal education in the district schools and at the Park Region Lutheran College. He graduated from the commercial department in 1899 and, immediately thereafter, returned to the farm and took charge of its management for his father. In 1906 Mr. Evanson purchased the original homestead of one hundred and sixty acres in Clitherall township. He is a general farmer and stockman and owns a magnificent farm which is highly productive and which is kept in a splendid state of cultivation. He is a director in the Farmers Co-operative Elevator Company and secretary of the board of managers since the new elevator was erected in 1907. He is also secretary of the Battle Lake Co-operative Creamery Company.

On June 21, 1906, Ed K. Evanson was married to Carrie Bondy, the daughter of W. W. Bondy, an old settler of Clitherall township. Mr. and Mrs. Evanson have no children. For fifteen years Ed K. Evanson was a member of the town board of supervisors and, for fourteen years, was chairman of the board. He also served three years as clerk of his school district. As a Republican, he is frequently called upon to attend Republican district and state conventions. More recently, however, Mr. Evanson has been independent in politics.

LUDVIG JENSON.

Numbered among the best citizens of Otter Tail county, Minnesota, and among the most extensive farmers, is Ludvig Jenson, who was born five miles north of Christiania, at Eidsvold, Norway, May 18, 1851, and who is the son of Jens and Maria Olson.

Mr. Jenson's parents were married in their native land and in 1868 came to America, bringing with them all of their children. After stopping in Wisconsin for a time the family emigrated to Goodhue county, Minnesota, where Mr. Jenson's father worked at the shoe-maker's trade and his son worked on neighboring farms.

In 1871 the family followed Ole Jenson, one of the sons, to Otter Tail county. Here the father homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres west of where his son, Ludvig, now lives. There he lived until his death. His wife died one week after the death of her husband. Both were members of the Synod Lutheran church. They had nine children, of whom two died very early in life in Norway. Those who lived to maturity are: Ole, Christine, Ludvig, Mary, Christian, Otto and Emma.

Ludvig Jenson received a liberal education in the common schools of Norway and accompanied his parents to America. On coming to Otter Tail county he assisted his father on the homestead farm and worked on neighboring farms. At that time St. Cloud was the nearest railway station. Some years later the road was extended to Perham. In 1873 Mr. Jenson purchased one hundred and twenty acres of school land in section 16, of Clitherall township. There were no buildings on the farm at the time. He now owns two hundred acres of well-improved land and in 1914 erected a magnificent house which is modern in every respect, equipped with water-works and all modern improvements. In 1896 Mr. Jenson built a good barn. He is a general farmer and stockman. Ludvig Jenson is president of the Farmers Mutual Telephone Company, manager of the Farmers Elevator Company and, at one time, served as director of the Co-operative Creamery Association.

Ludvig Jenson was married to Lena Olson, a native of Wisconsin and

the daughter of Christian Olson, and they are the parents of six children: Mary, who married Frank Anderson and lives in Battle Lake; Christian, who lives at home; Martin and Matilda, who live at home, the former being a wheat buyer; Oscar, who is a wheat buyer for the elevator at Josephine, North Dakota, and George, who lives at home.

In 1911 Mr. Jensen added one hundred and sixty acres, in section 9, to his farm land. He has been prominent in the political life of Otter Tail county ever since he reached maturity. He is a Democrat now, but in the days when the Populist party was prominent, he was identified with that party. He has served as supervisor and as chairman of the board of supervisors, also school treasurer for many years. From 1900 to 1908 he served as commissioner of Otter Tail county and many times has been a delegate to Democratic district and state conventions, in which his voice is always heard and in which his influence has always had great weight. Mr. and Mrs. Jensen are members of the Synod Lutheran church.

JOHN ELLWANGER.

John Ellwanger was born on the farm where he now lives in Clitherall township, Otter Tail county, September 16, 1868. He is the son of Fred and Inga (Hole) Ellwanger, the former of whom was born in Germany, September 27, 1838. Fred Ellwanger came to America with his mother when a lad of thirteen years. They remained in New York City for a time and there his mother died. Later he moved to Wisconsin and settled in Dane county, where he worked at various occupations, in the meantime learning the harness-maker's trade. In 1868, a few years after his marriage, he moved with his family to Otter Tail county, Minnesota, homesteading one hundred and sixty acres of land in Clitherall township. Upon this farm a log house was built. Fred Ellwanger prospered from year to year and was later able to add forty acres to his farm. He improved the place and lived upon it for many years. His last years, however, were spent at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Ole Henry, where he died on November 3, 1907. He was a devout member of the Synod Lutheran church.

There were nine children in the Ellwanger family: William, who is a farmer in North Dakota; John, the subject of this sketch; Lewis, who is a farmer and blacksmith in North Dakota; Thea, who married Ole Henry and lives in Clitherall township; Albert, who lives near Ashby, Minnesota, where he is a farmer; Matthew, who is a farmer in St. Olaf township; Emma, who married Alvin Olson and lives in Eagle Lake township; Jose, who married Carl Knutson and lives in St. Olaf township, and Fred, who died in infancy.

John Ellwanger was educated in the old log school of his neighborhood, spending two or three months every year in school. He was reared on a

farm and when he was old enough, assisted his father in the farm work. Mr. Ellwanger and two of his younger brothers purchased his father's farm before the latter's death. Later, however, Mr. Ellwanger bought the interests of his brothers and has been its sole owner ever since. In 1915 he built a thoroughly modern barn, which is painted red and which is kept in a good state of repair. He also has other high grade improvements upon the farm and makes a specialty of raising a high grade of live stock. Mr. Ellwanger is a director in the Battle Lake Creamery Company.

In 1900 John Ellwanger was married to Minnie Herness, the daughter of Lars Herness, and to them has been born one son, Fred Lawrence, who died at the age of one year. Mr. and Mrs. Ellwanger are well known in the community where they live and are highly respected. Mr. Ellwanger is independent in politics. He and his wife are members of the Synod Lutheran church.

JOHN MURDOCK.

John Murdock was born on the farm where he now lives in section 12, Clitherall township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota. He is the son of Lyman and Rebecca (Taylor) Murdock, and his birth occurred on November 13, 1874. Lyman Murdock was born in Jackson county, Missouri, in 1829, the son of Daniel and Eliza Murdock, who were early emigrants from Ohio. Lyman Murdock spent his childhood in Missouri, and after the death of his parents moved with his elder brothers to Iowa. At that time he was just nine years old and remained in Fremont county, Iowa, until he reached the age of manhood. In the county of Fremont, occurred his marriage to Rebecca Taylor. She was a native of Sullivan county, New York, having been born there in 1839. Her parents were Nicholas and Rachel (Twilliger) Taylor, the former a native of New York and the latter a native of Pennsylvania. They moved in 1842, with their three children, Charles, Rebecca and Mary, to Iowa, where they settled near Montrose, on the Mississippi river. There Mrs. Taylor passed away and after her death her husband moved to Fremont county, Iowa, where the daughter, Rachel, met and married Lyman Murdock, the father of the subject of this sketch. Mr. Taylor married, secondly, Olive Baldwin, who moved with him to Fremont county.

Lyman Murdock was a contractor and a mill owner. In 1865 he and his wife moved to Otter Tail county, Minnesota, where he homesteaded a tract of land extending over forty acres, most of which was timber. The land was located in sections 1 and 12. The task of homesteading required more than an ordinary aptitude for hard labor and a great deal of self sacrifice, Lyman Murdock proved that he was a man of both physical and

moral strength, and overcame the difficulties of a pioneer life with apparently little effort. He built a cabin in a picturesque part of the county, located on the north shore of Clitherall lake. In this cabin he continued to live until his death, which occurred in 1880, when he had reached the age of fifty-one years. His wife is still living at the age of seventy-seven. Both Mr. and Mrs. Murdock were members of the Cutlerite church, where Mr. Murdock served as elder and member of the council for a number of years. Mr. Murdock by his first marriage was the father of one child, Jane, who married John Baldwin and resides in San Francisco. To his marriage with Rebecca Taylor the following children were born: Emer, a farmer in Sherwood, Oregon; Olive, the wife of Albert Eddingfield, who is now living in North Dakota; Alma, who lives in Oregon; James, a farmer in Clitherall; John, the subject of this sketch; Lucy, who married Andrew Burnette, of North Dakota; Frank, who lives on the home place with his brother, and township; Carrie, the wife of Bert Harker, who is living in North Dakota; Cora who died at the age of sixteen years.

In the public schools of Clitherall township, John Murdock received his education. John Murdock received his greatest discipline on the farm where he learned the real lessons of thrift and honesty which he applied to his experience later in life. He was reared on the farm, and after reaching the age of manhood took up the occupation of the farmers as his life work. In 1892 his mother went to Oregon with her children and settled in the Willamette valley in Washington county. For several years after their arrival in Oregon John Murdock worked at brick setting. Later he began to be interested in fruit growing, which was a popular branch of agriculture in that state, and was occupied in that line of work for a number of years. In 1900, the subject of this sketch returned to Otter Tail county where he remained for two years. In 1902, hearing of the possibilities for successful farming in North Dakota, he went to Towner county, in that state, where he took a homestead claim on one hundred and sixty acres of land, which he later sold. He returned to Otter Tail county in 1903 and bought the shares from the heirs to the homestead and in this residence he continues to live. Since his purchase of the farm he has taken a great interest in improving the land and remodeling the house and devotes most of his attention to the duties of general farming.

Mr. Murdock during his residence in Otter Tail county has been a popular member of the Republican party, for whose cause he has served in many offices of public trust. As justice of the peace and clerk of the school district he has proved his ability to solve problems of community interest and on account of the manner in which he has served the public he has become a popular member of society. His personality has won a large circle of

friends and his high traits of character are recognized throughout the county in which he lives. Mr. Murdock has never married, but makes his home with his brother, Frank.

ABNER S. TUCKER.

Abner S. Tucker was born in Elizabethtown, New Jersey, on September 20, 1850, and is the son of John Joseph and Abigail (Mott) Tucker. His father was born on January 28, 1812, and his mother on February 14, 1826. Their ancestors were of English descent and were residents of New Jersey before the Revolutionary War. Great-grandfather Mott was a soldier in the Revolution, a heritage of patriotism of which his descendants have always been proud. The parents of Abner S. Tucker spent their childhood days in New Jersey, in which state they were also married. Six children were born to them in the state of New Jersey. In 1860 the family came west and settled in St. Croix county, Wisconsin, fifteen miles east of Hudson. In that locality the father followed the occupation of a carpenter for two years and at the end of that time he went to Winona county, Minnesota, where he continued to work at the same trade until 1875. After retiring from active work in Winona county, Mr. Tucker moved to Otter Tail county, Minnesota, where he lived a retired life until 1881, when he was called to eternal rest. His wife lived to the advanced age of eighty-five years and passed away in 1911. She was a woman of charming personality who found pleasure in living a quiet and retired life. The children who survived her are the following: Elizabeth, the wife of E. E. Corliss, who lives at Fergus Falls, Minnesota; Euphenia, who married John Chapman, who resides in Battle Lake, Minnesota; Abner, the subject of this sketch; Frank, who lives on the old home place in New Jersey. By a former marriage, John Tucker became the father of the following children; Katherine, the wife of Chauncey Walker, who died in New Jersey, and William, a carpenter in Chatfield, Minnesota.

In the public schools of New Jersey, Abner S. Tucker received his early educational advantages. He was still a small boy when his parents moved West in 1860, and his schooling was consequently scattered, and as was the custom in those days extremely meager and inefficient. After a short stay in the West, Abner Tucker returned to New Jersey, where he learned the mason's trade. In 1869, he moved to Winona county, this state, and followed the trade he had learned and was skilled in until 1875, when he moved to Otter Tail county. Upon his arrival in Otter Tail county, he worked as a farmer on the Corliss farm and later bought eighty acres of land in Clitherall township. In 1893 he gave the tract of eighty acres of land to a son,

and bought one hundred and sixty acres of land from the Murdock heirs for his own residence. Since his purchase of the Murdock land, Mr. Tucker has made many improvements, including the erection of a farm residence, where he now lives. The surrounding land is kept in the best state of cultivation and is used for the sole purpose of general farming.

Mr. Tucker has always given his support to the cause of the Republican party, the members of which organization have honored him from time to time with public offices. During his term as road overseer, Mr. Tucker gained a large popularity in the community in which he lives, and from his interest in school affairs added to his acquaintanceship among the best citizens.

In 1881, Abner S. Tucker was married to Emily Murdock, the daughter of Hiram Murdock, one of the early settlers of Otter Tail county. Mr. Murdock is now deceased. To the union of Mr. and Mrs. Tucker, the following children have been born: Ellis, who died at the age of seven years; Frank, who is station agent at Deer Creek; Orson E., who is a farmer living on the land adjoining his father's place, and Nettie who is living at home with her parents. The associations of his home constitute the main solace and interest of Mr. Tucker, and concerning the ideal relations displayed in his domestic life there can be no finer example of his simplicity and sincerity.

MONS O. LANGREN.

Mons Langren was born near Malmo, Sweden, October 11, 1861, the son of Ole and Ellen Hokanson, both natives of Sweden. His father lived all his life in his native land where he was a farmer and a landowner. He died in 1905 and his wife passed away in 1897. Both Mr. and Mrs. Hokanson were devout members of the Lutheran church and were the parents of ten children, six of whom grew to maturity. The living sons are: Hakan Olson, who resides on a farm in North Dakota; Ole Olson who lives in Sweden; Nels Olson, a farmer in Clitherall township; Par Olson, who is still living in Sweden, and Andrew Olson, who lives in North Dakota.

The early education advantages received by Mons Langren were received in the schools of his native land. At the age of fourteen he began to make his way in the world and went to Denmark where for two years he was employed as a gardener. After leaving Denmark, he returned to Sweden and remained there for two years when he set sail for America. He landed in this country in the year 1879 and went directly to Evansville, Minnesota, where he worked in a brick yard for six months. Before taking up the occupation of farming, Mr. Langren followed several lines of work. For four months he worked in a railroad station and spent the two months

following on a farm. He returned to Evansville where the opportunity was afforded him to work as a clerk in a general store. The line of work he continued until 1881.

Mons Langren came to Otter Tail county, where he now resides, in 1881. He bought one hundred and sixty acres of land in Clitherall township, section 28. At that time there was nothing but a log house and a log barn on the place and just twenty-eight acres of cleared land. Mr. Langren started at once to apply himself to the task of removing the growth of timber and underbrush from the land. He gave his entire attention to this occupation and was rewarded by seeing the wild appearance of the land gradually disappear. The farm on a whole underwent complete transformation under his management. After clearing a large part of the land, he built a large barn which was completed in 1893. The farm residence, which was built in 1910, is one of the newest designs in rural architecture. It has eight rooms and is modern in every way.

Mr. Langren has followed many lines of agriculture and has given special attention to the rearing of a high grade of cattle. He is a breeder of Shorthorn cattle and Duroc-Jersey hogs. One of the most profitable occupations in which Mr. Langren has been engaged has been the one of buying and selling stock, in which he began to take an interest in 1913. In this line of work he covers a large field and handles over twenty-seven carloads of stock a year. Mr. Langren increased his possessions by purchasing a farm of ninety-six acres, three miles east of the place on which he resides and has farmed on that land since 1902. In civic and industrial affairs, Mr. Langren is extremely popular in the community where he makes his home. He is a stockholder in the Farmers Co-operative Elevator Company and in the Axel Co-operative Store and in the Midway Telephone Company he is a director.

In 1881, Mons Langren was married to Mary Nelson, the daughter of Andrew Nelson, one of the old pioneer settlers of Swedish descent who came to Otter Tail county in the early stage of its development and who died here some years ago. Mr. and Mrs. Langren are members of the Swedish Lutheran church which they attend regularly. They have reared a family of ten children, namely: Andrew, the eldest child, lives on the farm of ninety-six acres owned by Mr. Langren in Clitherall township; Ellen, the wife of Oscar Olson, lives in Clitherall township; Alma, resides in Fargo, North Dakota; Oscar is a farmer in Clitherall township; Amanda, Willie, Helen, Augusta, Martin and Elmer are still living at home with their parents.

Mr. Langren adopted his name from the town in Sweden from which he came. His original name was Olson, which is still used by the other members of the family in Sweden and in this country. In political affairs,

Mr. Langren has given his support to the cause of the Republican party and has served in a number of offices where his ability has been recognized. He was constable for one year and for many years has been road overseer in district No. 5. As treasurer and trustee he has served the Swedish church for five years and was also treasurer of the building committee which erected the present parsonage.

NELS MORRAN.

One of the most successful farmers and stockmen of Clitherall township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, is the venerable Nels Morran, who has been an extensive dealer in cattle and horses. For many years he was one of the leading stock shippers from the Battle Lake station and has often traveled from Otter Tail county to Winnipeg, Canada, selling oxen and other cattle on the way.

Mr. Morran is a pioneer of this section and was born in the southern part of Sweden, December 3, 1844. He is the son of Andrew and Bertina Anderson. Mr. Anderson's parents spent their entire lives in their native land and have long been deceased. His father was a stock dealer and farmer and controlled a considerable amount of government land. He died about 1854. His widow survived him eight years, passing away in 1862. They were members of the Lutheran church and had a large family of children, of whom only two, however, ever came to America, Nels, the subject of this sketch, and Christina, who is the widow of Ole Hendrickson. They came to America about 1879 and she now lives at Los Angeles, California.

Nels Morran received a good education in the schools of Sweden. He began the compulsory military service required in his native land, but in 1860, tiring of the life there, he came by steamship to America. For some time he worked at St. Paul and then went to Meeker county, Minnesota, where he worked on various farms. In 1871 Mr. Morran came to Otter Tail county and homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of land in sections 3 and 4, in Eagle Lake township. The land was covered with wild timber and Indians were still numerous in the vicinity. Here Mr. Morran built a small log house with the help of some Norwegian families, the Culbertsons, Olsons and Martinsons, who settled in the same community. He began clearing the land and making his home habitable. After living on the farm until 1876, the grasshopper year, he had a sale and moved to a farm in Clitherall township, of one hundred and sixty acres, which he had purchased. This second farm had only a shanty at the time and Mr. Morran found it necessary to begin building and improving the place. He has lived on this farm ever since. Recently, Mr. Morran built a new house, in which he resides today. He has sold the Eagle Lake farm and is now engaged in general farming

and stock raising. Mr. Morran is a director in the Farmers Co-operative Elevator Company. He has been prominent in the business and commercial life of the township where he lives.

In 1879 Nels Morran was married to Mary Gammelton, a native of Sweden and the daughter of John and Johanna Gammelton, who were early settlers in Eagle Lake township. Thirteen children have been born to this union: Anton, who lives in North Dakota, where he is a grain buyer, married Amanda Nelson and has one daughter, Ellen; Hilma, who married Otto Moody, lives at Battle View, North Dakota; Alma, who married Franz Anderson, lives at Evansville, Minnesota; Julius, who is a butcher, resides at Battle Lake; Augusta, who married Nordal Halmrast, lives at Battle View, North Dakota; Emma, who died at the age of eighteen; Esther, who died at the age of sixteen, both being burned to death when the Morran house was destroyed by fire in 1914; Oscar, who lives in Milnor, North Dakota, is engaged in the butcher business; Hjelmar, who lives in Milnor, North Dakota, is employed on the Northern Pacific railroad; Clifford, Selden and Ruby live at home, and Julius died in infancy.

Although nominally a Republican, Mr. Morran has been more or less independent in local politics. He and his wife are members of the Eagle Lake Swedish church and are active in religious affairs. They are highly respected citizens in the township, where they have lived for so many years and where they are so well known.

H. J. MURDOCK.

On the old Murdock homestead in Clitherall township, Otter Tail county, Hiram J. Murdock was born on the 8th of May, 1869. He is the son of Lyman and Rebecca (Taylor) Murdock, the former of whom was prominently identified with the early development and resources of the county in which he lived. Lyman Murdock was born in Jackson county, Missouri, in 1829, and was the son of Daniel and Eliza Murdock, who originally came from Ohio. Rebecca (Taylor) Murdock was born on the 15th of September, 1839, the daughter of Nicholas and Rachel (Twilliger) Taylor. The parents of Hiram Murdock came to Otter Tail county as early as 1865, and homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres in that section.

He whose name initiates this sketch was reared under the conditions and influence of pioneer days, and as was the custom for the average youth of that locality and period received but few educational advantages. Notwithstanding his meager training in the old town district school, Mr. Murdock is a man of broad information and mature mind. As a boy he gained practical experience through the assistance given his father, and after completing the course in the Fergus Falls high school, he spent three years on

the home place where he was occupied with farming. In 1898 he went to Tower county, North Dakota, and homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of land. In this capacity, Mr. Murdock received his most valuable experience as a farmer, and remained in Towner county eight years. He bought eighty acres adjoining the original farm and still owns a tract of land in that section covering two hundred and forty acres.

In 1907, Mr. Murdock returned to Clitherall township and bought a farm of eighty acres in section 11. On this farm he continues to live and enjoys a wide acquaintanceship in the community. Mr. Murdock believes firmly in modern improvements and has used every effort to make his farm stand for that principle. His farm residence, the barn and the smaller buildings on the place have been remodeled.

Hiram J. Murdock was married in 1910 to Mollie Christianson, a native of Madelia, Minnesota, and the daughter of N. Christianson, one of the oldest living settlers of Madelia. The children born to Mr. and Mrs. Murdock are: Rachel, Paul, Max and Daniel. In his political relations Mr. Murdock is a Republican.

CARL L. DANIELSON.

Carl L. Danielson was born in Orebro, Sweden, on June 18, 1871, the son of Carl W. and Christine Danielson, who were born at that same place, and there grew to maturity and married. Carl W. Danielson was a farmer of his native land, who, following a visit to America, returned to his country and made preparation to come to America for permanent residence, and in the year 1882 Carl W. Danielson and his family came to America and went to Folden township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, where for one year the elder Danielson worked on a farm and then he homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of land in section 14, of Folden township, which he cleared and a place where he established a home, on which he lived until his death in the year 1913, he being seventy years of age at that time. Christine Danielson preceded her husband in death, she dying about the year 1898. To the marriage of Carl W. and Christine Danielson were born seven children, namely: Annie, who married Albert Thomas, and who died in 1897; Carl L., the subject of this sketch; Fritz, who died as a boy; John, a farmer of the state of Montana; Jennie, who is a missionary in China; Gertie, who lives at Seattle, Washington, and Huldah, who died in infancy.

Carl L. Danielson was educated in the public schools of Otter Tail county, afterward going to the state of Montana where, for four years, he lived and then during the year 1899, he returned to Folden township and invested in one hundred and twenty acres of land in section 22, land which was poorly improved and a place which had been given little care and culti-

vation. Carl L. Danielson, on gaining possession of this place, proceeded to clear his land completely and to improve it to the point where it is now one of the best farms of the locality. Mr. Danielson has erected a modern house, has a splendid barn and is thoroughly equipped for the general farming which he does on his land.

On December 20, 1899, Carl L. Danielson was married to Mary Storbo, who was born in Sweden, the daughter of Theodore Storbo and wife, who emigrated to America at an early date. To Carl L. and Mary Danielson were born the following children: Thomas, Clarence, Harry, Lynn, Pearl, Beatrice and Annie.

Carl L. Danielson has served his township not only as a good citizen in the common duties of citizenship, but he has served efficiently as school treasurer, an office in which he displayed himself to be a man of business ability and a man of judgment and tact. Carl L. Danielson and his wife are both active members of the Lutheran church at Vining.

EDWARD GULLESON.

Edward Gulleason, a native of Norway, was born in the northern part of Trondhjem, April 29, 1859, the son of Gulle Erickson and Cecelia Iversen. The father of Edward Gulleason was a native of Norway and was a shipbuilder by trade. After his death in 1865, his widow never re-married. Twenty years later, her son Edward having become successful in America, she crossed the ocean to join him and is still in his home, being eighty-three years of age. Besides Edward, her eldest son, Mrs. Erickson gave birth to two other sons, namely, Sigvurd, a farmer of northern Minnesota, and Jacob, a farmer of Henning township. Edward's education was limited to such schooling as was afforded during his boyhood days by the public schools of his native land. Until 1884 he worked at his father's trade in which he had become proficient and a year later bought a farm of one hundred and forty acres, in section 5, of Henning township. This was a barren country at that time, having no buildings, no cleared land and no roads. The first necessity was shelter and the young man speedily set to work with a resolute heart to effect a clearing on which he built a log house. This was improved from time to time until finally in 1910 it was replaced by a substantial modern dwelling. Two years later he built a new barn having concrete foundation, sixty-eight by thirty-eight feet in dimensions, on one hundred and twenty acres in this township, besides what he previously owned. Mr. Gulleason has become a general farmer.

Mr. Gulleason's marriage occurred in Norway in the year 1882, when he married a daughter of Anna Peterson. The six children born of this union are Gudrun, Thorolf, Anasgarl, Sophia, Jeffrey and Nelma.

Mr. Gulleón, who is a Republican in politics, votes an independent ticket locally. He is a stockholder of the creamery, the farmers warehouse and the telephone company. He has been for several terms and is at present a school director, having served also as school clerk. Both he and his wife are members of the Vining Lutheran church.

LOUIS SHANSTROM.

Louis Shanstrom is a native of Sweden, having been born in Skaraborg, December 20, 1844, his parents being Johannes and Mary Johnson. Mr. and Mrs. Johnson were born and grew up in Sweden, where the former engaged in agriculture, and both died within a short time of each other, leaving four children to look after themselves. These were Stine, who is now married to John Lundgren and lives in Sweden; Ulriche, who married John Larson, of Sweden; Elizabeth, also a resident of that same country, is the wife of a Mr. Solberg, and Louis, the subject of this sketch. The father died in 1847 and the mother three years later.

Louis Shanstrom was only three years old when he was deprived of the care and protection of a father, and six when he lost his mother. There were no relatives to whose home the little lad could go and he was cared for by the county until his fifteenth year, meantime attending school. At the age of fifteen he began working for various farmers and continued this until his twenty-second or twenty-third year, when he went to sea for the following three years. His travels bringing him to the shores of America in 1873, he decided to become an American citizen and with this in view, worked at Duluth, Minnesota, for a year. He then went to Meeker county, Minnesota, where he engaged in farm laor until 1884. Going to Grand county, South Dakota, he took up a homestead claim of one hundred and sixty acres of prairie land, which he cleared and improved and on which he lived until about 1897. After living on a rented farm for a short period of time, he again bought a farm which he later sold. For two years he lived in Nassau, Las qui Parle county, Minnesota. It was August, 1900, when his footsteps turned eastward again, and arriving at Woodside township, this county, he purchased one hundred and twenty acres of land in section 16. He set about building the necessary farm houses and in 1914 erected a fine new barn thirty-two by forty-two feet, having hip-roof and concrete foundation. Mr. Shanstrom has been engaged in general farming.

Before coming to America, Louis Shanstrom was united in marriage in his native country to Clara Carlson, also born in Sweden. This was about the year 1870. Four children blessed their home, these being Eric, a stationary engineer who lives in Watertown, South Dakota; John, a farmer, South Dakota; Lizzie, the deceased wife of Paul Schulke; Albert F., a native of

Meeker county, Minnesota, born on September 25, 1879, is at present operating his father's farm.

Albert F. Shanstrom, during his early childhood, lived in South Dakota, where he attended the public schools and assisted his father with farm work. He has been such an apt pupil in this line of activity that he has come to assume more and more responsibility until the present time when his experience and ability are such that he is able to relieve his father to a large extent of farm work. He was married in Grant county, South Dakota, in 1906, to Minnie Clausen, a native of that county and daughter of Peter Clausen. Their children are Harold, born on January 29, 1909, and Harvey, July 12, 1910. Albert Shanstrom is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America.

The subject of this sketch has been a resident of this county for only six years, but his interests have become thoroughly identified with the life of the community. He is a member of the Republican party. Mr. Shanstrom is a well-balanced, all-round man.

P. O. BOTTEM.

P. O. Bottem was born in Lesse Gudbrandsdalen, Norway, August 31, 1855, the son of Ole Olson and Ragny Ralson. The parents of Mr. Bottem were born, grew up and married in Norway. The father was a landed farmer and died in the country of his birth. He was also a soldier. The children of Mr. and Mrs. Olsen were Christian, who lives in Michigan and is foreman of a mine; Annie, also a resident of Michigan; P. O., the subject of this sketch, and Ragny who lives in Norway.

P. O. Bottem was educated in the schools of Norway, and came to America with his wife and three children when he was twenty-five years of age. They located in Michigan, where he was employed in the mines from June until April. They then went to Mankato, Minnesota, where he worked for three or four months, then taking up farming in Brown county, of the same state, he bought and lived on his own farm until 1900. They then came to Otter Tail county, where he had already purchased two hundred acres, in section 29, Elmo township. This property was only partially improved and Mr. Bottem proceeded to erect new buildings and fences and cultivate the land. He added to the value of the place in 1913 by erecting a modern silo. Since that time he has become a well-known breeder of general stock and dairy farmer, owning between fifteen and twenty cows. He has also other interests, being a stockholder and director of the Almora Co-operative Creamery Company.

In 1877 P. O. Bottem was married to Mary Jacobson, a native of Norway and daughter of Jacob Jacobson. To them have been born four chil-

dren, Jacob, Olsen, a North Dakota farmer; Rena, who lives at home; Ragny, who married Paul Midby and lives in Grand Forks, Minnesota, and Oscar, a farmer of North Dakota. Mr. Bottem is a Democrat and for five years filled the office of supervisor. He and his wife have many friends in the vicinity of their home.

EVER JOHNSON.

Ever Johnson has the distinction of having been one of the first employees of the Northern Pacific railroad who is still in the service of that company. He began as a section hand when the track was a single one and the trains were combination affairs, and has watched the transportation service evolve into a wonderful organization. He is also one of the few foremen who have remained in the service of that company covering a period of so many years.

Ever Johnson is a native of Norway and was born near Trondhjem, February 26, 1869. He is one of ten children born to John and Martha Johnson, both natives of Norway, who emigrated to America in 1873. Their first location was in Ashland, Wisconsin, where they remained for a period of one year, removing to Wadena county, Minnesota, and there settled on an eighty-acre homestead. This place was cleared and improved and became their permanent residence until the death of John Johnson in 1895. The first buildings erected on this place were crude affairs built of logs. After the death of John Johnson, his widow, Martha Johnson, removed to Washington state, where she joined her children, and one year later, in 1906, passed to her eternal rest. In life they were both members of the Norwegian Lutheran church. The names of their children follow: Ever, Mary, Swan, John, Nels, Charles, Maria, Helmar, and two who died in infancy. Mary became the wife of Andrew Ostrom and died in Wadena county. Swan is a farmer and lives near Leaf River station, Wadena county, Wisconsin. John was a millwright, of Bellingham, Washington, and his death occurred in that place. Nels Johnson is a blacksmith and resides in Bellingham, Washington. Charles is a farmer living near Leaf River station, Wadena county, Minnesota. Maria became the wife of John Thompson, and also resides at Leaf River station. Helmar is a farmer living at Leaf River station.

Ever Johnson received his education in the public schools of Norway and in Ashland, Wisconsin. This education was very poor, as he was the son of pioneer parents and forced to become the arbiter of his own destiny at an early age. His early youth was spent on the old home place, where he assisted his father in the cultivation of his land. At the age of eighteen years he entered the service of the Northern Pacific railroad as a section

laborer. His service in this capacity was of such value to the company that he was soon promoted to section foreman, a position which he still retains. This service has covered a period of thirty-seven years of honest and sincere endeavor in behalf of the company. In 1887 he removed to Bluffton and two years later erected the home in which he now lives.

On June 28, 1891, Ever Johnson was united in marriage to Mabel Howes, daughter of James and Lucinda Howes, a native of Hancock county, Iowa. Ever Johnson and his wife are the parents of seven children: Clayton, who lives in Bluffton; Even, Albert, Charley, Chauncy, Ever and Irene. The parents of Mabel (Howes) Johnson came to Otter Tail county, Minnesota, about 1879 and settled on a homestead in Bluffton township, which they later sold, retiring to the town of Bluffton. Lucinda Howes, the mother, passed away in 1913. James Howes, the father, was born in 1840, in Clinton county, Iowa, and removed to Ft. Howard, Wisconsin, in 1866. In 1873 he removed to Hancock county, Iowa, removing five years later to Otter Tail county, Minnesota, where he still resides. He served his country as a soldier during the Civil War, and has served his community as postmaster for some years. After the death of his first wife he married Clara Hoppes, who is still living.

Ever Johnson was for many years a stanch Republican, but now lends his support to the Democratic party. He was elected and served as a member of the town council some time. Fraternally, he is affiliated with the Modern Woodmen of America. He is sincerely respected and stands high in the esteem of his fellow citizens.

BERNARD KLUENENBERG.

Bernard Klauenberg was born in Hanover, Germany, January 6, 1875, the son of Henry and Eliabeth (Woebkenberg) Klauenberg, both of whom were natives of Hanover. In 1887 the Klauenberg family left their native land and emigrated to the United States, settling at Albany, Stearns county, Minnesota. The family here entered land and became actively engaged in husbandry, at which industry and on which land the father and mother spent their entire time, living quiet and retired lives until their deaths. Henry Klauenberg died on January 25, 1915, at the age of about seventy-three years, and his wife died in 1911. To Mr. and Mrs. Klauenberg were born six children, as follow: Elizabeth, who died at the age of five years; Bernard, the subject of this sketch; Dena, who married Bernard Wenning; Agnes, who married August Stueve and who lives at St. Anthony, and two children who died in infancy.

Reared on his father's farm at Albany and educated in the public schools of Stearns county, Bernard Klauenberg grew to manhood. Upon reaching

his majority he left his father's farm and started out in life on his own responsibility, and for two years engaged in the mercantile business at Richdale. He then removed to Bluffton in 1902 and engaged in the mercantile business there for a period of three years, after which he traded his business in Bluffton for a farm. Upon retiring from the mercantile business, Mr. Kluenenberg entered into the saloon business and for the next eight years was engaged in this business at Bluffton. Finally, however, he gave up the saloon business and entered into the soft drink business. Aside from his other business interests, Mr. Kluenenberg is secretary and treasurer of the Bluffton Elevator and Produce Company, which company is at the present time erecting a new and strictly modern elevator, and also a shareholder in both the bank and creamery of Bluffton.

On October 20, 1903, Bernard Kluenenberg was married to Mary Vorderbruggen, who has borne her husband six children, Mary, Joe, Annie, Barbara, Rosa and Bertha.

As a Republican, Mr. Kluenenberg has served as councilman and school clerk of Bluffton. He is a member of St. John's Society and is at the present time serving as secretary of the society. Both he and his wife are members of the Catholic church.

JOHN W. BARR.

John W. Barr was born in Jackson county, Iowa, October 9, 1859, the son of Alexander and Mary (Soash) Barr, both natives of Pennsylvania. The parents were reared in the Keystone state and were married in that state. Alexander Barr was a cabinet-maker by trade and followed his trade in his native state. Later he removed to Wisconsin, settling on the Whitewater river, and still later removed to Jackson county, Iowa, where he died in 1862. His wife was soon thereafter married to Charles Knipe and moved with her husband to Shell Rock, Butler county, Iowa, where she died on April 25, 1875. Alexander and Mary Barr were the parents of seven children, as follow: David, who was killed by lightning in 1886, lived in Kimball, South Dakota; Jane, who married Charles Marquand, died in Wisconsin; Henry is a farmer residing at Ord, Nebraska; Mary, the wife of M. Williams, lives in Shell Rock, Iowa; Will, a farmer and well driller, also lives in Shell Rock; John W. is the subject of this sketch, and Nora, who married James Jenks, lives in Mount Auburn, Iowa.

John W. Barr received his elementary education in the public schools of Jackson county, Iowa, and, after being left an orphan at the early age of fourteen, was raised by an elder brother for several years. Early in life he began working on neighboring farms and continued as a farm hand until he was thirty years of age. In 1882 he removed to South Dakota, where

he lived for four years, at the expiration of which time he returned to Shell Rock, Iowa, and was employed until 1890 on the neighboring farms and on the railroad. In 1890 he rented a farm in Iowa and there lived during the next ten years, or until 1900, when he moved to Otter Tail county, Minnesota, and purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land in section 32, of Bluffton township. The land being wild and unimproved, John W. Barr began the breaking of the soil and the improving of the farm by the erection of buildings and fences. He has continued this process of improvement until he now enjoys the ownership of a highly improved farm. He engages in general farming and stock raising and is especially interested in Durham cattle.

On March 24, 1892, John W. Barr was united in marriage with Agnes Newell. To this happy union there have been born four children, Vern, Zola, Vera and Clyde. Vern is a carpenter by trade.

Mr. Barr is more or less independent in politics, but notwithstanding the fact that he is not actively identified with either party, he is vitally interested in the political life of his community. He served as school clerk of Bluffton township for a period of twelve years and filled this office to the entire satisfaction of the people of that township. He is also a shareholder in the Farmers Co-operative Creamery Company.

CHARLES O. OLSON.

Charles O. Olson, a native of Sweden, was born on January 1, 1850. The parents of Mr. Olson, Ole Carlson and Ellen Swenson were born, grew up and were married in Sweden where the father farmed on his own land until his death in 1895, being followed by the death of his wife in 1905. He never enlisted in military service. There nine children are as follow: Charles O.; Mary, who married and died in Sweden; Swen also passed away at the age of sixteen; Andrew, a butcher, living in St. Paul, Minnesota; Ocke, a Swedish farmer; John, a bricklayer living in Chicago; Swen, a St. Paul merchant; Hilda, who lives in Sweden, and Esther.

Charles O. Olson went to school in his native land and farmed and was thirty years old when he decided to seek his fortune in America. He came to this country and at once settled in Otter Tail county. In 1880 he purchased two hundred acres of land in section 29, of Elmo township. This land was practically a wilderness at that time and Mr. Olson was compelled, at first, to live in a dugout while he began to clear and improve the property which was to become his future home. On the site of his present home he later built a log cabin and began his career as general farmer.

In 1894 he and Amanda Anderson, a native of Sweden, were united in

marriage, she being a daughter of Ander Swenson. To them five children were born, Adolph, Obert, Aldo, Esther and Ellen.

Besides being a successful farmer, Mr. Olson is a stockholder of the Almora Creamery Company and of the Farmers Elevator Company at Henning. He is a member of the Republican party and both he and his wife belong to the Elmo Norwegian Lutheran church. Mr. Olson has also served as school director.

ANDREW HANSON.

The proprietor of one hundred and sixty acres in section 2, of Bluffton township, is Andrew Hanson, a native of Sweden, born at Skane, December 21, 1850. He is the son of Hans Johnson and Kari Bengtson, both of whom were born in Skane, Sweden. Hans Johnson was a farmer in his native land and followed his occupation there until 1880, when he immigrated with his wife and two daughters to the United States in order to join his two sons, Peter and Andrew, who had preceded them a few years previously and had settled at Rockford, Illinois. Hans and Kari Johnson lived the remainder of their lives at Rockford with their children, the former passing away on March 31, 1894, and the latter in 1890. Both were devoted members of the Swedish Lutheran church. To these parents were born four children, as follow: Andrew, the subject of this sketch; Betsey, who married Andrew Nelson and lives at Rockford, Illinois; Peter, who immigrated to the United States in 1879 and is now a farmer living at Rockford, Illinois, and Anna, who married Peter Martinson and lives at Rockford, Illinois.

Reared to manhood on his father's farm and educated in the public schools of Sweden, in 1878 Andrew Hanson left his native land and emigrated alone to America, the first of his family to be an immigrant to foreign shores. Arriving in the United States, Andrew Hanson removed to Rockford, Illinois, where for a number of years he worked as a farm hand on neighboring farms and later became a renter. After spending twenty-seven years in Illinois, in 1905, he removed to Otter Tail county, Minnesota, and bought one hundred and sixty acres in section 2, of Bluffton township. This tract of land was improved and suitable buildings had been erected upon the farm. Mr. Hanson has been engaged in general farming on this farm ever since his possession of it, and has been very successful in the operation of his agricultural interests.

In 1880 Andrew Hanson was united in marriage with Elza Johnson, a native of Skane, Sweden, and the daughter of John Johnson and Anna Nelson, both of whom were pioneer settlers in Illinois. To this happy union there have been born five children, as follow: Fannie, who married Charles Swenson and lives in Illinois; Ella, who married Oscar Jung-

quist and also lives in Illinois; Alfred, who is a carpenter of Minneapolis; Anna, who married Earl Gregory and lives in Rockford, Illinois; Clara, who married Harry Osborn and lives in Los Angeles, California; Mabel and Hansie, who live at home with their parents, and two children, both named Alma, who died in infancy.

Andrew Hanson has taken a great interest in local political and social conditions, but has never aspired to hold public office. He is identified with the Republican party.

HELMER MYHRE.

The branch of the Myhre family of which Helmer Myhre is a descendant is traced back to Mons T. and Martha (Sefrend) Myhre, natives of Norway, in the vicinity of city of Christiania. Mons Myhre, who was born on the 18th of May, 1817, and Martha Sefrend, whose birth occurred on the 12th of October, 1823, were married in the country of their nativity on the 14th of November, 1843, and after several years of residence in that country, where Mr. Myhre was engaged in the lumber business and in general farming, the couple left for America. They set sail in July, 1861, and were accompanied by their children. Upon arriving in this country they went directly to Winona county, Minnesota, where Mons Myhre bought a farm. He lived upon this land, which was unimproved, for six years. At the end of that time he bought a farm in Fillmore county, where he continued to live for nine years. In 1876, accompanied by a son, he came to Otter Tail county, Minnesota, where each started to farm independently. Before taking up his residence in Pelican Rapids, Mons Myhre bought a tract of railroad land in Clay county, where he lived for some time. His last days were spent in North Dakota, where he took up a homestead claim near Balfour. On this homestead he lived with his wife until he reached the age of ninety years. His death occurred in 1909 and his wife passed away in 1908. The couple attended the Lutheran church. They were the parents of the following children: Annie, who was born in 1844, and who died in Winona county, Minnesota, was the wife of Nels Haloorson; Tosten, to whom reference is made in the following paragraph; Martha, Lizzie, Gulbjor, Gulbrand, Martin and Mary. Mary is the only child who was born in America, her birthplace being Fillmore county.

Tosten Myhre was born in Norway on the 11th of January, 1846. He was educated in Norway and later in the public schools of Winona county. His career as a farmer may be said to have begun in 1870, when he came to Otter Tail county and bought one hundred and sixty acres of land in section 31 of Scambler township. Here he lives a retired life and enjoys the satisfaction of having produced a modern farm from an uncultivated tract

of prairie land. Mr. Myhre is a member of the Republican party and has held the office of township treasurer for the last twenty-six years. He has also served as director of the school board and as township trustee.

The marriage of Tosten Myhre to Hannah Bartelson took place on the 7th of November, 1869. Hannah Bartelson is the daughter of Bartel Thorson and Ragnild Anderson and was born in Norway. Her parents, who came to this country in 1860, settled in Fillmore county. The following children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Myhre: Martin, who lives in Pelican Rapids, where he is proprietor of a restaurant; Regina, who lives at home with her parents; Matilda, the wife of Even Rossum, who owns a farm in North Dakota, but who resides in Otter Tail county; Thea, who lives on the home place; Helmer, the subject of this sketch, and Clara, Mrs. Otto Kjos, who resides on her father's farm.

Helmer Myhre was born in Scambler township, Otter Tail county, on the 22d of April, 1881. He remained on the farm with his parents until 1907, when he went to McLean county, North Dakota, for the purpose of homesteading one hundred and sixty acres of land. He remained on the farm two years and at the end of that time returned to Otter Tail county, where he came into possession of one hundred and twenty-six acres of land, which was part of his father's original farm. Here Mr. Myhre continues to reside. In 1912 he made some very extensive improvements on the place and for the past few years has devoted his interests exclusively to stock raising and general farming.

The marriage of Helmer Myhre to Elma Arneson, the daughter of Syv-rin Arneson, a pioneer settler of Clay county, took place on the 11th of November, 1911. To this union two children have been born, Victor, who died in infancy, and Grace, who is at home with her parents.

CLINTON WHITNEY FISKE.

Clinton Whitney Fiske was born at Still Water, Minnesota, March 17, 1852, the son of David and Elmira (Bragdon) Fiske, who were born in the state of Maine and following their marriage moved to the city of Galena, Illinois, and then later to the state of Minnesota, where they settled at Still-water, living there until their death. David Fiske having died, his widow, Elmira, was married to a Mr. Atkinson. David and Elmira Fiske were the parents of the following children: George, Charles, Frank, Clinton, Mary, Anna, Caroline and Helen.

Clinton Whitney Fiske was the youngest child of David and Elmira Fiske, he being born but a short time before the death of his father. When a young man, following his school days, he remained on the home farm for a time and then became a traveling salesman for the Minnesota Chief

Threshing Machine Company, a position which he occupied for some time and then resigned to accept a position as manager of a large farm owned by O. P. Whitcomb. After about six years at this work, Clinton W. Fiske, in the year 1881, came to New York Mills, which at that time was a mere settlement, and established himself in the livery business, erecting a building known as the "Old Red Barn," on a site now occupied by the Dower Lumber Company. Clinton W. Fiske remained in business at the original place until his death, on October 13, 1904, he being a pioneer in that line of business, and a man who was known throughout the surrounding territory as one of the most successful and commendable men of that work.

Clinton Whitney Fiske was prominent in the public life of the town and the county, he having served in the capacity of a member of the local school board and also on the village council. In politics, Mr. Fiske was an ardent Republican. Clinton Whitney Fiske was a member of the New York Mills lodge of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, an organization in which he took an active and important part.

On February 22, 1880, Clinton Whitney Fiske was married to Cora M. Tyler, who was born in Washington county, Minnesota, July 21, 1855, the daughter of John W. and Lydia Ann (Dewey) Tyler, and a distant relative of Admiral Dewey. John W. Tyler was born in Potsdam, New York, and his wife, Lydia, was born in the state of Connecticut, and after their marriage in Canada, they came to the state of Minnesota, later returning to Brockville and to Toronto, Canada, after which they came again to the state of Minnesota, and located at Lakeland, where they died. John W. and Lydia Tyler were the parents of six children, three sons, all of whom died in infancy, and three daughters, Nina, Edith and Cora, who survive. To the marriage of Clinton and Cora Fiske were born two sons, David Dewey and Harry Taylor.

Harry Taylor Fiske was born at Redwood Falls, Minnesota, on February 21, 1882, and was educated in the schools of New York Mills and in the schools of the city of Minneapolis. From boyhood having been associated with his father in the livery business, Harry Tyler Fiske determined to become a veterinary surgeon and therefore, in the year 1908, he entered the Chicago Veterinary College, from which institution he graduated in the class of 1911, and since that time has followed his profession as a member of the firm of Fiske Brothers, of New York Mills. The firm of Fiske Brothers is splendidly located in a building, forty by one hundred feet, have room for forty horses and for thirty tons of hay, as well as living quarters for one family, on the second floor. Harry Tyler Fiske has been one of the town's councilmen, and in fraternal affiliation is a member of Perham Lodge, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons.

On September 2, 1912, Harry Tyler Fiske was married to Elizabeth Hurst, who was born at Wadena, Minnesota. To this marriage no children have been born.

David Dewey Fiske was educated in the public schools of New York Mills, after which he was an assistant to his father in the livery business until the death of the father, when, with his brother, Harry Tyler Fiske, he entered the business as a partner.

On September 2, 1906, David Dewey Fiske was married to Mildred Reynolds, who was born in Otter Tail county, the daughter of Fred Reynolds and wife. David D. Fiske is a member of the lodge of Modern Woodmen of America, at New York Mills, an organization in which he takes an important part.

JACOB AMENT.

Jacob Ament was born in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, on August 4, 1862, the son of John and Mary (Reinman) Ament, both of whom were natives of Germany. The parents were married in their native land and continued to live there until 1861, when they emigrated to the United States. Upon their arrival in America, they settled in Milwaukee, where John Ament obtained employment in a rope and twine factory. After living in Milwaukee for a period of ten years, he farmed in Milwaukee county for two years and then moved to Marathon county, Wisconsin, where he was actively engaged in husbandry until 1913, or until his retirement. In the meantime he had become a well-to-do and prosperous farmer and, as the result of his patient labor, had come in possession of one hundred and sixty acres of land, which upon his death, in 1914, was divided among his children. His faithful and beloved wife had died previously, in 1910, after bearing her husband eight children, namely: Jacob, the subject of this sketch; George, who is a contracting logger of Wisconsin; Anne, the wife of George Hoffman and who lives in Marathon county, Wisconsin; John, who lives in Merle, Wisconsin; Andrew, deceased, who was killed in 1910; Effie, who married Frank Lander and who lives at Atkins, Wisconsin; Mary, who married and lives in Wisconsin, and Joseph, who died very young in life. Mr. and Mrs. John Ament took an active interest in the social life of Marathon county. They were devoted members of the Catholic church.

Reared on his father's farm and educated in the public schools of Wisconsin until fifteen years of age, Jacob Ament learned the cook's trade and followed it from the time he was fifteen years of age until he was twenty-eight years old. During this time he served as cook on various lake and river boats during the summers and in logging camps during the winters.

After his marriage, however, he gave up the cook's trade and began farming in Wisconsin on a farm of one hundred and twenty acres, which he had bought some years previously in Marathon county. After living on this farm for twelve years, or until 1900, Jacob Ament removed to Otter Tail county, Minnesota, where he purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land in section 20, of Bluffton township. At the time of this purchase the land was wild and unimproved. Consequently, Mr. Ament began immediately to break the land and to improve the farm by the erection of a house. In 1912 Jacob Ament bought an additional one hundred and sixty acres situated just northeast of his original tract and extending partially in the corporation of Bluffton village. Still later, in 1915, Mr. Ament bought three hundred and twenty acres of land located in Blowers and Bluffton townships, which land he holds for his children. In 1914 he further improved his original farm by the erection of a new and modern barn, thirty-four by seventy feet, and a one-hundred-and-ten-ton silo, fourteen by twenty-eight feet. Jacob Ament is a man who has a passion for all mechanical labor-saving devices which by their installation add to the efficiency of his farm. He has installed a gas engine which pumps all the water used on the farm, separates the cream, does the washing and other work that greatly assists in removing the drudgery of farm work. He also possesses a gas power silo filler and an automobile, which eliminates waste of time in traveling and insures rapid transit. Mr. Ament also keeps good breeds of live stock, being a breeder of Hereford cattle, Poland China hogs and also a high grade of horses. On his farm he keeps about sixty or seventy-five head of cattle as well as a sufficient number of hogs to warrant the yearly shipping of two carloads to market. He generally raises about thirty-five acres of potatoes and ships them himself to the market of Breckenridge.

In 1890 Jacob Ament was married to Tillie Harrins, a native of Wisconsin and the daughter of Joe Harrins, a pioneer settler and blacksmith. To this happy union there have been born fourteen children, as follow: Clara, Maggie, Henry, George, Joe, Jubert, Freddie, John, Walter, Tony, Helen, Tillie, Hildegard, and an infant, who died unnamed. Clara married Theodore Kaufman and lives in Bluffton township. Maggie married Joe Schmiesing and also lives in Bluffton township.

Mr. and Mrs. Ament are active and devoted members of the Catholic church. Mr. Ament, who is a Democrat, has always taken a great interest in the development of his community and has been most active in improving the roads and farming conditions of Bluffton township and Otter Tail county. Few men of Bluffton township enjoy a larger measure of success or command the respect and esteem of a larger number of friends than Jacob Ament.

GEORGE F. WOLLEAT.

George F. Wolleat was born on May 16, 1868, in Warsaw, Rice county, Minnesota, and is the son of William and Annie (Cowan) Wolleat. His paternal grandparents were Michael and Adelaide (Davidson) Wolleat. Michael Wolleat was a native of Pennsylvania. Adelaide (Davidson) Wolleat was a native of New York. After their marriage most of their lives were spent in Rice county, Minnesota, where they removed in 1856, and where their death occurred. They were the parents of eight children: William, Benjamin, Harrison, Crosby, Michael, Lucy, Melvina and Sarah. The maternal grandparents of George F. Wolleat were John Wesley and Bertha (Buchanan) Cowan, both natives of Indiana. In 1856 they removed to Faribault, Minnesota, where they both died. John Wesley Cowan settled in that location when the county was thickly populated with Indians. They were the parents of nine children: Andrew, Enoch, George, Frank, Annie, Martha, Elizabeth, Mary and Lucinda. Annie was born while the family were residents in Indiana, and removed to Rice county, where she grew to maturity, and where her marriage to William Wolleat was solemnized. Her husband died in 1893 and she then married John Epperd, but is now a widow. William Wolleat, father of George F. Wolleat, was a veteran of the Civil War, having enlisted in Company B, Eighth Regiment, Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, and served for three years. His two brothers, Harrison and Crosby, also served in the same company. After the war he became a member of the Grand Army of the Republic. Annie (Cowan) Wolleat was a member of the Episcopal church. They were parents of twelve children: George F., Addie, Lizzie, Jessie, Luke, Lloyd, Archie, girl triplets who died in infancy; Lina, who died when very young, and Raleigh. Addie became the wife of W. S. Orne and lives in Brainerd, Minnesota. Lizzie became the wife of W. H. Blackburn and resides in Ft. Ripley, Minnesota. Jessie married I. B. Hollister, and they reside in Spokane, Washington. Luke died at the age of seventeen years. Lloyd is an agent for Ward's Remedies and lives in Detroit, Michigan. Archie is a farmer and lives at Foxhome. Raleigh is a laborer living in Brainerd, Minnesota.

George F. Wolleat was reared on the home farm and received his education in the public schools of Morris township, Rice county, Minnesota. At the age of twenty-one he began agricultural operations independently, but later became an agent for the Singer Sewing Machine Company, and for several years was engaged in this work, both in Rich and Otter Tail counties. In 1900 he purchased a farm of eighty-six acres located in Corliss township, Otter Tail county, and resided there for three years. He then moved to Rush Lake township, where he purchased forty-five acres on the

north shore of Long lake, shortly afterward adding one hundred and two acres of adjoining land. This property was virgin soil and heavily covered with timber, thirty acres of which are now entirely cleared, and among other improvements is a very comfortable home, in which the family now reside.

On October 27, 1892, George F. Wolleat was united in marriage to Minnie Myrtle Winslow, daughter of Theodore Winslow, a native of Faribault, Minnesota. They are the parents of ten children: Della married Albert H. Domschott and lives in Brainerd, Minnesota; Charles, William, Harold, Benjamin, Mabel, Donald, Olive, Jessie and Alice.

George F. Wolleat is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and in his political faith, a member of the Republican party. He has served his community in the capacity of school treasurer. He is a man of more than ordinary ability, and is well versed on all questions pertaining to the welfare of his community.

SIMON SESTER.

Simon Sester is one of four children born to the union of John Sester and Mary Guth, and his birth occurred on April 4, 1872, in Reeds Landing, Minnesota. John Sester was a native of Ohio, of French descent, and removed, when very young, to Illinois, where he was married to Mary Guth. After his marriage he followed the course of the Mississippi river, seeking a desirable location for a permanent residence, living in different towns, but finally settled for about five years in Reeds Landing, Minnesota. He later removed to the town of Alma, in Buffalo county, Wisconsin, where he resided until his death, in 1913. Mary (Guth) Sester was a native of Switzerland and emigrated to America with her parents at the age of fourteen years, temporarily settling in the state of Pennsylvania, but later removing to Illinois. Her death occurred in 1908. John and Mary (Guth) Sester were devout members of the Catholic church. The names of their four children follow: William, who was a ranchman of Montana, and died in that state; Clara, who became the wife of Charles Braem, and lives in Alma, Wisconsin; Simon, the subject of this sketch, and Herman.

Simon Sester received his education in the public schools of Alma, and later learned the carpenter's trade, which he followed for eight years in the states of Minnesota and North and South Dakota. For three years he was a resident of East Dubuque, Illinois, removing to Otter Tail county, Minnesota, in 1915, where he settled on one hundred and five acres in section 29, of Rush Lake township. He is also the owner of forty acres in section 19, the same township, which land he has owned since 1911. In 1895 he was united in marriage to Elizabeth Herold, daughter of Henry Herold, an old

settler of this county. She is a native of Buffalo county. They are the parents of four children: Elvia, Joyce, deceased; Earl and Harvey, deceased.

Simon Sester has great hopes for the future in an agricultural way, and is improving his place in every way possible. The erection of a modern home and barn is being added to the other improvements, and his plans for engaging in the dairy business are fast being consummated. His cattle will consist of eighteen head of purebred Holsteins, and the public will be served to the best of his ability. Fraternally, he is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America and is independent in his political faith. He is a man worthy of sincere esteem.

ALBERT KORTH.

Albert Korth was born in Germany, February 25, 1859, the son of John and Caroline (Beske) Korth, both natives of Germany. Mr. and Mrs. Korth left their native land in 1883 and came to this country with four of the seven children born to them. Upon arriving in America they went directly to Otter Tail county, Minnesota, where Mr. Korth bought forty acres of land in section 2, of Oscar township, and two hundred and thirty-five acres in sections 34 and 35, of Trondhjem township. One hundred acres of the tract was in a cultivated condition. Mr. Korth began at once to break the uncultivated sections of the land and to make extensive improvements, so that at the time of his death the farm was one of the most desirable in that section of the county. John Korth was a man of unusual attainments and strength of character; he and his wife were strong members of the Lutheran church, where they retained membership until their death. Mrs. Korth passed away in 1872 and her husband died in 1895. They were the parents of the following children: Minna, the wife of Charles Wentland, still resides in Germany; August, a farmer in Oscar township; Fred, who still lives in Germany; Albert, the subject of this sketch; Rhinehardt, who lives in Germany; Matilda, the wife of Deitrich Schierenbeck, of St. Paul, Minnesota, and Julia, who married Albert Seibel, also of St. Paul.

The rudimentary branches of his education training were received by Albert Korth in the public schools of Germany. His training on the farm in his native land also gave him valuable experience. He landed in America at the age of twenty-three years and went to work for his father. He served in this capacity until 1887, when his father's failing health made it necessary for the son to assume full control of the farm affairs. He bought his father's place as a result and has continued to reside on the place since that time.

In 1915 Mr. Korth erected a modern barn, designed with concrete foundation and steel stanchions, which are built to hold seventeen head of cattle

and about one hundred and twenty-five tons of hay. Mr. Korth has always taken an active interest in affairs pertaining to agriculture. He has served as director and organizer of the Rothsay Creamery Company and also assisted in the organization of the potato warehouse at Rothsay. In his political interests, Mr. Korth has always given his allegiance to the cause of the Republican party. His religious views are with the Lutheran church, of which he and his wife are both ardent members.

In 1888 the marriage of Albert Korth and Elizabeth Leiseke, a native of Germany, took place. She is the daughter of Charles Leiseke, one of the earliest settlers in Elizabeth, the town in which he followed the occupation of a miller. To Mr. and Mrs. Korth the following children have been born: Ella, who is a teacher in the public schools of the township in which her parents reside, and who was educated in the Park Region Lutheran College and at the Moorhead Normal School; Lorinda, who is a student in the business college at Rothsay; Nita, who died at the age of four years; Florence, who remains at home, and Arthur, who died at the age of thirteen years.

CHARLES G. PETERSON.

Charles G. Peterson was born at Osta, Jutland, Sweden, October 31, 1858, the second son of Peter Carlson and Kristine (Peterson) Carlson, both natives of Sweden. Peter Carlson was born on February 12, 1809, and his wife was born on December 8, 1825. The couple came to America in 1882, accompanied by two sons, the eldest son Peter, having already taken up his residence in this country. Upon their arrival in Minnesota they went to Fergus Falls, where for two years they made their home with Peter Peterson, who was established in a business there. Peter Carlson spent his last days on the farm owned by his son, Charles, and at his request was buried on the homestead in January, 1901. His wife is still living, at the age of ninety years. She is the mother of the following children: Peter, who follows the occupation of a carpenter in Fergus Falls; Charles, the subject of this sketch, and Walter, a painter at Fergus Falls.

Charles G. Peterson, after completing his education in the public schools of Sweden, took up the carpenter's trade, which he has continued to follow. He came to America in 1882 with his parents, and after a residence of two years in Fergus Falls took up a homestead claim of eighty acres in Otter Tail county, a place which has since been called, on account of its early development, "Peterson's Point." Mr. Peterson, aside from clearing the timber and cutting away the underbrush from the land, has built his own house and the barns on the farm and has laid out a number of roads. Although he follows the occupation of general farming, Mr. Peterson devotes a large part of his time to carpenter work, in which branch of

employment he is a skilled workman. Evidence of his work may be found in all parts of the county and especially in the school buildings, to which he has given special attention. As a member of the Republican party, he has served as school director, in which capacity he executed the duties of the office in a manner deserving of the highest commendation.

The marriage of Charles Peterson to Hannah Hanson, a native of Sweden, took place in 1889. To this union two sons have been born: Fred, who is learning the carpenter's trade under the supervision of his father, and Oscar, who has charge of the practical management of the Peterson farm.

HARRISON WORDEN.

Harrison Worden is a native of Indiana, where he was born in Rochester, Fulton county, on the 6th of September, 1848. He is the son of Moses Harrison and Melissa (Bristol) Worden, whose lives were examples of high citizenship and Christian charity. Melissa Worden was the daughter of Henry and Melissa Bristol, natives of Massachusetts, who were descendants of stanch English stock. Her parents came to Indiana in the early forties and settled in Fulton county. Mr. Bristol was a school teacher and a farmer and gained distinction through his powers as a man of wide interests and worthy accomplishments. After leaving Indiana, he went to Wisconsin, where he settled in Henrietta township, in Richland county. He served as township treasurer and came into possession, through shrewd business ability, of large tracts of land. He and his wife returned, later in life, to Fulton county, Indiana, where they died in 1866. Their deaths occurred only a few days apart. Mr. Bristol was a man who was born to lead, and was recognized as an authority in every community where he lived. His life was filled with remarkable achievements and thrilling events. He was a soldier in the War of 1812, and looked back upon that period of his life as one of the most interesting stages. To Mr. and Mrs. Bristol the following children were born: Samuel, who followed the mason's trade and who died in Indiana; Edwin, a farmer who died in Wisconsin; Melissa, the mother of the subject of this sketch, who was a school teacher; Harrison, who followed the occupation of a mason and from whom Harrison Worden received his training in that line of work, died in the fall of 1914, in Richland Center, Wisconsin, at an age close to ninety years; Lucy, the youngest daughter, married Lorenzo Culver and after his death became the wife of Jerome Tadder, and died in Richland Center, Wisconsin. The mother of Harrison Worden, Melissa Bristol, was born in Massachusetts in the year 1816. She spent her girlhood in Indiana and received more than the usual educational advantages of that period and locality.

Before her marriage she taught school and after the death of her husband she again took up that line of educational work.

Moses Harrison Worden was born in 1808, in Ohio. He moved to Indiana, where his marriage took place, and there followed the occupation of a farmer. His death occurred in 1848, just three months before the birth of the subject of this sketch. Mrs. Worden moved to Wisconsin after the death of her husband, where she lived with her parents while she taught school. It was during her residence in that section of the country that she met Mr. Gwinn, whom she married. Her death occurred in 1854. She was a woman of remarkable force of character and high ideals and her death brought to a close a life of usefulness. To Mr. and Mrs. Worden the following children were born: Clarissa, the wife of Edward Telfer, of Sextonville, Wisconsin; William, a farmer residing in Richland county, Wisconsin; Angeline, who married Frank Handy, and who lives in Washington; Eliza, the wife of Jerome Welby, who resides in the state of Washington, and Harrison, a review of whose life is given in these pages.

Harrison Worden received his early education in the schools of Indiana and Wisconsin. He was reared by his grandparents on the Bristol side, and attended the public schools. On November 15, 1863, he enlisted in Company F, Second Wisconsin Cavalry, and served in the Civil War until December, 1865. Mr. Worden is one of the most interesting conversationists on war history in the section of the county in which he lives and relates with enthusiasm his experiences as a soldier. Mr. Worden had a place in the very heart of the cavalry activities. He was in the battles at Yazoo City and at Jackson, Mississippi. In the battles of Red Bone church he also took part, and was in the Grerson's raid, where fighting was carried on every day. During the fighting at Yazoo he was slightly wounded in the right side.

After his service in the Civil War, Harrison Worden returned to Wisconsin, and in 1866 left for Rochester, Indiana, where, as an assistant to an uncle, he learned the mason's trade. He lived with his uncle until 1871, and during that time also learned the trade of plastering. In the spring of 1872 he came to the part of Minnesota where Brainerd now stands. For a short time after his arrival in that locality he worked on the Northern Pacific railroad and had part in the building of the stations from Brainerd west to Bismarek. Mr. Worden has had the privilege of having taken part in the beginnings of things. He plastered the first building ever erected in Fargo, North Dakota. He was with the railroad company until 1872, when he went to Minneapolis. He followed the trade of a mason until 1880, when he decided to take up his residence in Otter Tail county, as a farmer.

Harrison Worden began the task of homesteading on one hundred and

sixty acres of land which were located in section 22, of Maplewood township. The land was in a primeval state and alive with wild game. Mr. Worden built as his first piece of labor a log cabin and also a dugout which was used later as a cellar. During the time spent in homesteading, Mr. Worden continued to work at his trade. In every large building in the vicinity of his home he has done the plastering. He helped to build the Presbyterian church and since its erection has contributed generously to its support. In 1885 he added to his possessions by purchasing forty additional acres, which make the original tract of land a farm of two hundred acres devoted to general farming.

In his political relations, Mr. Worden is a Republican. He has served his party as chairman of the board of supervisors for twenty-two years. For six years he acted as treasurer of the school district.

The marriage of Harrison Worden and Martha Smith was solemnized on April 1, 1875. She was a native of Vermont and the daughter of Stephen and Sarah Smith, who were among the prominent residents of that state. Stephen Smith was for many years a central figure in the political affairs of Vermont, where he served in the state Legislature and in the Senate, and at the time of his death was a candidate for the office of lieutenant-governor. After his death, which occurred in Vermont, his wife married Mr. Hazelton and the couple moved to Wisconsin, where they settled in Richland county. Mr. and Mrs. Worden are the parents of four children: Harry Clemens lives in Erhard, where he is county commissioner; William Holden is a farmer in Kochiching county, Minnesota; Bernard E. lives in the home place, where he has part management of the farm, and Clara Elizabeth, the wife of Theodore Thompson, resides in Maplewood township.

SIGURD A. SYVERSON.

Sigurd A. Syverson, since early childhood, has lived in an environment of pioneer life. He has seen the very beginning of agricultural development in Otter Tail county, where he still resides. Although a resident of this community for a period covering thirty-five years, Sigurd A. Syverson spent the first years of his life in Helgeland, Norway, where he was born on July 1, 1875. He is the son of Andrew and Inga (Johnson) Syverson, the former of whom was born in Gulbrandsdalen, Norway, on the 24th of March, 1837, and the latter was born on the 14th of August, 1847, in Helgeland, Norway. Andrew Syverson, who was a landowner in his native land, followed the occupation of a farmer and a fisherman until the year 1880, when, with his wife and four children, he set sail for America. Upon arriving in this country he located in Scambler township, Otter Tail county, where he bought one hundred and sixty acres of land in sections 28 and 33.

The farm was only partly cultivated and over two-thirds of the land was covered with underbrush. The first year of his occupancy of the farm, Mr. Syverson lived in a shack which was standing on the land at the time of his purchase. The following year he erected a dwelling which still remains in use on the place. In 1902 Mr. Syverson transferred the management of his farm to his son, Sigurd. He built a second residence which he occupies with his wife. Although he has been blind for the last six years, Mr. Syverson still gets a great deal of happiness from life, especially from the activities of his children, who are as follow: Annie, Mrs. Bernt J. Berg resides in Scambler township; George, a farmer, resides in Pelican Rapids; Sigurd, the subject of this sketch, and Rachel, the youngest child, who died at the age of seven.

Sigurd Syverson was reared on the homestead claimed in the pioneer days by his father. As a small boy he was taught the duties of farm life and upon reaching the age of manhood was fully equipped with methods of handling agricultural problems. In 1902 he rented the farm from his father and has continued to manage the affairs of the place ever since. He is a breeder of a high grade of Durham stock and of Poland China hogs, of which he is the owner of forty head.

In political life, Mr. Syverson is a member of the Socialist party. He has served as township assessor and as a member of the school board. On the 16th of October, 1902, the marriage of Sigurd Syverson and Lena Clausen, the daughter of Casper Clausen, one of the oldest settlers of Pelican township, took place. To this union the following children have been born: Arthur, Lillian, Sadie, Jeanette, Hazel and Helen, all of whom are still at home with their parents.

PETER GOLDSCHMITZ.

Peter Goldschmitz is a native of Germany, and was born in that country on the 30th of December, 1868. His parents were Theodore and Gertrude (Boelser) Goldschmitz, both of whom are deceased. They were also natives of Germany and lived and died in that country. Peter's education was limited by reason of having to work while yet a boy and also as a young man. In 1893 he emigrated to America, and his first location was in Douglas county, Minnesota. While living in Douglas county, he followed the same employment that he did as a boy and young man in his fatherland, that of farm laborer. He worked on different farms which were largely of cleared land. From Douglas county he went to Todd county, Minnesota, and there bought eighty acres of wild timbered land. This land he cleared of the timber, and after improving same sold the farm, after having lived there for fifteen years. After selling out in Todd county, he came to Butler

township, Otter Tail county, where he permanently settled on a farm of one hundred and sixty acres that he purchased.

In 1897 Peter Goldschmitz was married to Mary Goldsmidt, and from this union they have three children, the names of whom are Louise, John and Anna. Mary Goldsmidt is a native of Minnesota. Mr. Goldschmitz and family are members of the Catholic church.

PETER F. MEYER.

Peter F. Meyer, one of the enterprising agriculturists of Candor township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, is a native of Germany, born there on February 19, 1860. His parents were Peter and Elizabeth (Pfleugger) Meyer, also natives of Germany, who lived and died in that country. They were the parents of four children, whose names follow: Elizabeth, who married Peter Pfeugger and now lives in Germany; Peter F., the subject of this sketch; Dora, who married and is living in Germany, and Martin, who also remained in Germany. Peter Meyer was a farmer and small land-owner and followed agricultural pursuits until his death, on April 1, 1878. His wife died in 1883.

Peter F. Meyer was reared on the home farm and was educated in the public schools of Germany. In 1885 he emigrated to America and located in Chicago, where he became an employee of a lumber company, which position he held for some months. He then engaged in logging, in the lumber woods of Michigan, for one winter, returning to Chicago, where he was employed in the brewery of Knop Brothers. He finally removed to Martin county, Minnesota, and labored as a farm hand for eight months. With the proceeds of his labors, a team and wagon were purchased and with this he drove through to Wilkin county, Minnesota. After his arrival he purchased two hundred and forty acres of railroad land, which he sold in 1899, becoming the possessor in the deal of one hundred and twenty-four acres, located in section 14, in the southwest corner of Candor township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota. However, he did not remove to this property for seven years, but, instead, returned to Chicago and engaged in hauling lime, cement, coal and sand. In the spring of 1907 he removed to this farm, on which he has continued to reside. Improvements were begun and new buildings were erected, such as granary, barn, machine shed, etc. The original meadow was a very small one, but now enough hay is raised with which to feed twenty head of cattle, beside some to sell. A specialty is made of breeding and raising pure strain Durham cattle, of which a herd of fifteen or twenty is kept. About twenty Poland China hogs are also kept. Fifty acres of the farm are entirely cleared and under cultivation.

In 1890 Peter F. Meyer was united in marriage to Fredricka Wachter,

who died in 1895. In 1905 he was united in marriage to Mrs. Bertha (Grenz) Georn, a native of Germany. To his first union three children were born, William, Fred and Emma. William and Emma died in infancy. Fred is at home. Peter F. Meyer was a soldier in the German army before his emigration to America. Politically, he is a Socialist.

CHARLES H. MANN.

Charles H. Mann, one of the respected citizens of Candor township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, is a native of Germany, as were also his parents, Frederick and Hannah Mann. Frederick Mann was reared in his native land and it was there that his marriage was solemnized. He also served his country in the Franco-Prussian War and in the Danish War. As a civilian he was occupied as a day laborer and followed this vocation until his emigration to America, in 1873. His first location in the United States was in Buffalo, New York, where he was employed for several years, removing, in 1879, to Otter Tail county, Minnesota. One hundred and sixty acres of unimproved land were secured, under the homestead law, in section 10, of Candor township, and this farm was cultivated under his direct supervision until 1915, at which time he sold the place to his son, Charles H. Mann, and retired to the town of Detroit, Minnesota, where he still lives. His wife, Hannah Mann, is also living. The names of their children follow: Charles H., Sarah, Anna, who is the wife of Teddy Rogan, and lives in Detroit, Minnesota; Rose, who is the wife of Charles Izzard and is living in Hobart township, and Fred, who lives under the parental roof.

Charles H. Mann received his education in the public schools of Buffalo, New York, having been but four years of age at the time of his emigration to America. He was born on April 12, 1869. He was reared in the pioneer community of Otter Tail county and assisted his father with the work on the home place until he purchased a farm of his own in section 4, consisting of one hundred and twenty acres, and remained there until 1915, at which time he purchased the old home place. This farm is devoted to general agriculture.

In 1897 Charles H. Mann was united in marriage to Katie Germer and they are the parents of four children: Lester, Flora, Alberta and Carl. Katie (Germer) Mann is a native of Minnesota. She and her husband are both members of the Lutheran church. Politically, Charles H. Mann is an independent, and has served as supervisor and school treasurer of the district. He is also interested in the local enterprises and is a stockholder in the Vergas Creamery Company and in the telephone company.

OTIS ALFRED ANTONSEN.

Otis Alfred Antonsen, prominent farmer and stock raiser of Edna township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, was born in LeSueur county, Minnesota, August 1, 1874, the son of Christian and Henrietta Antonsen, who were among the early residents in LeSueur county.

Otis Alfred Antonsen received his education in the common schools of LeSueur county, after which he came, in 1894, to Otter Tail county, Minnesota, and became a farmer, working first as a farm helper and later he purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land in Edna township, where he now engages in general farming and in the raising of fine grade Duroc-Jersey hogs and Red Polled cattle. Mr. Antonsen has developed his land from uncleared and unbroken acreage to one of the well-improved and valued farms of the community.

In 1903, Otis Alfred Antonsen was married to Louisa Bangle, who was born in LeSueur county, Minnesota, the daughter of John Bangle and wife, early settlers of LeSueur county, where they lived as farmers for a time and then moved to Grant county, living there for twenty-three years, after which they went to Washington county, where they now make their home. To the marriage of Otis Alfred and Louisa Antonsen have been born two children, Gilbert and George. Mr. Antonsen and his family are active and interested members of the Methodist Episcopal church.

In addition to his active interest in all matters for the general welfare and public good, Mr. Antonsen is now serving his township as school treasurer, an office which he has occupied for seven years.

EVERETT E. INMAN.

Everett E. Inman, a prosperous young farmer of Inman township, who, in 1914, purchased one hundred and fourteen acres of land in section 3, was not only the first white child born in Inman township, but it was his grandfather for whom Inman township was named. Naturally, the Inman family has been prominent for many years in the history of this township.

Everett E. Inman was born in Inman township, July 25, 1872. His parents, John B. and Hattie (Donahue) Inman, were natives of New York and Indiana, respectively, born in 1846 and 1847. Mr. Inman's paternal grandfather was Thomas E. Inman, also a native of New York state, who, with his family, came very early to this township and took up one hundred and sixty acres of land. He was a minister in the Baptist church and preached at various places in Otter Tail county during his life. He was also a farmer and spent his last days in the township which was named for him.

John B. Inman, the father of Everett E., accompanied his parents to

Otter Tail county and he homesteaded a farm in section 26, of Inman township. The father's homestead farm was in section 34. John B. Inman improved his land, but a number of years ago, moved to Springfield, Illinois, where he now lives. To John B. and Hattie (Donahue) Inman were born five children, James M., Ada M., Everett E., Guy (deceased) and Charles.

Everett E. Inman was reared in Inman township and educated in the public schools of Otter Tail county. Mr. Inman has always been engaged in farming. Since purchasing his farm, in section 35, of Inman township, a tract of one hundred and twenty acres, in 1914, Mr. Inman has been engaged in general farming and stock raising.

In 1901 Everett E. Inman was married to Amelia M. Battis, who was born in Olmsted county, Minnesota, and who is the daughter of Richard A. and Sarah M. (Rank) Battis. The latter was the daughter of William J. Rank, who married Jane Donaldson. They were among the pioneer settlers of Olmsted county. Both are now deceased. Mrs. Inman's father has always been a farmer and is now living retired. His wife died in 1914 at the age of sixty-seven years. They had a large family of children, of whom Guy and John are deceased. The living children are, Jay, Amelia, Ida, Genevieve, Alice, Mary, Jessie, Cora and Mark.

Mr. and Mrs. Everett E. Inman have no children. Mr. Inman is known in the township, where he lives and with which his name is so closely identified, as a successful farmer and business man and one of the rising young citizens in this part of Otter Tail county. He has a host of friends in the neighborhood where he resides.

ALFRED K. EVAVOLD.

A decided success in his chosen line of endeavor is Alfred K. Evavold, farmer and stockman of Eagle Lake township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, who, by dint of hard work and earnest thought to the problems at hand, has wrought out a satisfactory competency and a place of high respect among those of his vocation. Alfred K. Evavold is a native of Norway and the son of Claus and Bertha (Peterson) Evavold, also natives of Norway. Alfred K. Evavold was born on June 20, 1877, and immigrated to America in 1889, accompanied by his parents. Claus Evavold located in Otter Tail county, Minnesota, where he purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land in Eagle Lake township, remaining there until his death in 1901. His wife, Bertha (Peterson) Evavold is still living and resides on the old home place. They were the parents of seven children: Peter, Claus, Louisa, Alfred, Isaac, Alvina and Anton. They were ardent members of the Norwegian Lutheran church, called the Free church, of which their children are supporters.

Alfred K. Evavold received his education, both in the schools of Norway and America, being only twelve years of age when he arrived in this country. After completing his schooling, he assisted his father with the work on the home place until nineteen years of age, at which time he purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land and began operations independently. He has since added to the original purchase until the farm consists of three hundred and sixty acres, all well improved and under cultivation. For the past seven years he has been a buyer of cattle and hogs and makes a specialty of breeding and raising thoroughbred Short Horn cattle. In 1896 Alfred Evavold was united in marriage to Carrie Erickson and they are the parents of eight children: Betsey, Mabel, Alvin, Leonard, Roy, Elmer, Arthur and Herman. Alfred K. Evavold and his wife are members of the Free Lutheran church. The least that can be said of this man is, that he has been a diligent worker and a determinate factor in the successful issue of his life's ambitions, leaving nothing to chance, but making everything a certainty.

ISAAC K. EVAVOLD.

Isaac K. Evavold, a man of earnest sincerity and strong personality, has so identified his interests with those of this commonwealth that he is as highly respected as her native sons. With only meager opportunity for education, and with many discouragements, he has realized the ambition of youth, namely, to become a useful and respected citizen. Born in Norway on February 6, 1879, Mr. Evavold is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Claus Evavold, mentioned elsewhere in the present publication.

Isaac Evavold came to America in time to receive a part of his education here. Attaining his majority he entered a farm of one hundred and forty-five acres in St. Olaf township, a fine tract of land which he afterwards bought, and this he farmed from 1899 until 1903. Ten years previous to the latter date, however, he added the purchasing and sale of cattle and hogs to his other farming interests. The farm in St. Olaf township was sold in 1913, and two years previously Mr. Evavold removed with his family to Ashby. He later bought one hundred and twenty acres in Eagle Lake township, this county, which is devoted exclusively to grazing.

Mr. Evavold was twice married, his first wife being Gena Peterson. The marriage took place in 1899, and to this union were born three children, Carl Oliver, Burt Melvin and Julia Victoria. The second marriage occurred in 1908, the bride being Tilda Monson, and to them were born four children namely: Hilda Corena, Enoch Gilfred, Elsie Adelia and Louise Merie. Mr. and Mrs. Evavold belong to the Lutheran Free church.

Mr. Evavold's career has been one of honor and guided by the most

worthy principles. He has sought to place his influence on the side of right, and in so doing, has won the esteem of the community in which he has lived for many years. Mr. and Mrs. Evavold have made their home attractive to their friends.

This record should include mention of Peter K. Evavold, a brother of the above-mentioned gentleman, a man who also is highly respected in this community, and who has been for the past six years township supervisor, and for a number of years, a valued member of the school board.

Peter Evavold, like his brother, received part of his education in his native Norway, and came with his parents to the United States. He was a youth of eighteen years when the journey was made. Living and working on his father's farm until his twenty-fourth year, he then rented for a short period previous to purchasing in 1900 the site of his present home, a splendid farm in Eagle Lake township. On this tract of two hundred and forty acres, he has erected well-constructed buildings, whose attractiveness is enhanced by the beautiful grove of trees planted by the owner. Beside raising and feeding hogs, Mr. Evavold is a breeder of a fine grade of Holstein cattle, and carries on dairy business.

Peter Evavold and Victoria Long were united in marriage in the year 1905, the bride being a native of Douglas county, Minnesota, and the daughter of Swedish parents. This marriage was blessed by the birth of seven children, two of whom are twins. The children are, Constantine, Alexander, Frances, Melvin and Clarence twins; Unice and Royald. Mr. Evavold is a member of the Lutheran church. He has handled the duties and responsibilities of public office honestly and with ability as his long tenure in office will indicate, and is a man of upright character and untarnished reputation.



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